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PFLP'S GEORGE HABASH INTERVIEWED ON CAMP DAVID, AUTONOMY ISSUES

LD241257 Paris AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI in Arabic 21-27 Apr 80 pp 22-24

[Interview given to Maha Samarah by George Habash, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine--date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Now that a year has passed since the Camp David agreements were signed and now that the autonomy negotiations have become deadlocked and Israel is intensifying the building of settlements on the West Bank, how does George Habash view the current phase through which the Middle East crisis is going?

[Answer] It must be recognized that the Camp David phase has brought our Palestinian struggle in particular and the Arab liberation struggle in general face to face with a new, difficult, dangerous and complicated phase that is different from any previous phase ever experienced by our Palestinian struggle against the Zionist invasion which is allied with imperialism. What I precisely mean is that the Camp David agreements have for the first time led an official Arab regime to recognize, cooperate and ally itself with the Zionist entity in an open, declared, official manner. We had never faced such a situation before. Arab reaction, which during previous phases could not confront the Zionist invasion, had at times plotted secretly with Zionism and imperialism against the Palestinian struggle and, at other times, attempted to weaken or abort the Palestinian struggle, as happened in 1936 and 1948.

This is the first time that an official Arab force and regime has capitulated and recognized the legitimacy of the Zionist invasion of the land of Palestine and has subsequently cooperated and allied itself with this invasion. Therefore, it must be recognized that our cause has become more complex than at any time before, despite the fact that it was basically complicated due to the nature of the Zionist colonization movement which hinges on a world reactionary movement and is fatefully linked with imperialism. Camp David has added a new complexity to an already complex issue.

[Question] Do you expect surprises await As-Sadat in Egypt?

[Answer] The question is not one of surprises but of a practical equation similar to any equation in chemistry--an oppressed people will fight against oppression and against the ruler who is falsifying their will and working against their interests. This is the equation which, as historical events prove, will eventually result in the destruction of the oppressor and the victory of the people. Had we met here 2 years ago and reviewed the situation in Iran, would it have occurred to us that the shah would fall and the Iranian people's will would triumph? In 1977, President Carter visited Iran. While exchanging toasts with the shah, he raised his glass saying: Let us drink a toast to this country which represents a stable point in the area. Two years later, the shah fell and his present situation is well known and the will of the Iranian masses triumphed.

[Question] We observe that the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] has not succeeded in establishing close relations with the present Iranian rulers, despite PFLP's support for the Iranian revolution.

[Answer] It is our duty to support the Iranian revolution as long as it is hostile to imperialism and Zionism, irrespective of the views of the Iranian revolution's political and economic quarters during the current phase.

We can clearly see the very strong blow the Iranian revolution has dealt to the imperialist and Zionist schemes in the area. We have relations with progressive forces within the Iranian revolution and we are trying to establish good relations such as those which must naturally exist between the parties that are serious in fighting imperialism and Zionism.

[Question] Does the PFLP approve of the PLO's political and diplomatic activities in Europe and of this type of endeavors and contacts?

[Answer] We are not opposed to diplomatic activities by the PLO to gain support for our just cause but in the application of this general principle, each case must be taken separately. Now, let us take the so-called European initiative and examine it very carefully and discuss its motives and prospects and see whether it can be achieved. After finding the answers to these questions, we can define our attitude toward the diplomatic activities in relation to this particular phase--that is, with regard to the European initiative.

What are the motives of the European initiative? We believed that the crisis which the Camp David agreements have begun to face in their Palestinian aspect is the primary motive for this initiative. Otherwise, why did not Western Europe declare from the very outset its attitude toward the Camp David agreements whose objective is to liquidate our cause? Why does Europe have to wait until 26 May to see whether or not it should launch its initiative? This means that the basic motive for the initiative is the Camp David agreements and the establishment of a link between Camp David and the completion of the Zionist-imperialist scheme whose objective is to tie the whole area to the Western camp.

I regret to say that I do not see in the official European initiative--and here we are talking about the European states and not the European peoples--any principled stand with regard to the Palestinian people and the justness of their cause. Where were these European circles before? Has not our cause been just and has not its justness been perfectly clear for years and years? Can we judge this initiative divorced from its timing, not to mention what the European press is saying about the oil question and its role in the initiative?

[Question] Do you not find positive aspects in the European initiative even if it is a continuation of Camp David?

[Answer] How can there be positive aspects in this initiative if it is linked with Camp David which has been rejected by our Palestinian and Arab masses? We are prepared to accept support for our cause only in one case--that the price of this support should not be conditions imposed on the Palestinian revolution to negotiate with, recognize or conciliate [sulh-Arabic] the Zionist enemy. I must emphasize here an extremely important and basic point namely, that we in the PFLP reject absolutely, decisively, categorically and fundamentally any recognition of the existence of the Zionist entity on the land of Palestine. We shall continue to struggle and to take up arms without pause until the Zionist cancer is completely extirpated from the Arab land. I am here talking about the Zionist movement as a political and economic Nazi, sectarian, aggressive, colonial and expansionist ideology in the area. I am not talking about the Jewish masses, which, in a democratic Palestinian state, will have full rights and responsibilities like the rest of the citizens.

[Question] This means that your rejectionist stand is still as it is known to be--no conciliation [sulh-Arabic] of Israel, rejection of the principle of peaceful solution and insistence on war of liberation--and not just of part of Palestine?

[Answer] This is not my stand. It is the stand of the Palestinian people. If any change has occurred in this stand, it is one of deeper rejection and stronger belief in victory. Our Palestinian people have been rejecting the Zionist invasion since 1882.

There is one point I must emphasize: the political program adopted by the 14th [Palestine] National Council, in which all the [Palestinian] groups expressed their faith in the Palestinian Charter and support for the Tripoli unitary document, does not entitle any Palestinian official wherever he may be--in London, Paris or Rome--to issue any statement that smacks, directly or indirectly, or readiness by the Palestinian revolution to recognize Israel directly or tacitly. Such a leader will in no way represent the will of the Palestinian people.

[Question] Now that 12 years have elapsed since the establishment of the PFLP, are there no subjects, principles or ideas that need to be reconsidered or changed? Such as the establishment of a mini-Palestinian state, for example?

[Answer] The subject of the Zionist presence on Palestine land and in the Arab area cannot and will not be reconsidered. Regarding our strategic objective, which we have failed to achieve [so far], we imagine that it has to go through stages. Naturally, one of these phases is the liberation of certain parts of the Palestinian territory. The liberation of such parts and the establishment of a national authority on them cannot be regarded as an alternative to the strategic objective but as an interim target to continue our march to achieve the principal aim. This concept is very clear to the PFLP and all the Palestinian revolution's groups. Any group that takes stands or actions that are contrary to this concept will actually be deviating from the charters and the basic program of the PLO.

[Question] To achieve this interim target, the first step requires coordination and cooperation with a certain international power. What harm is there in coordinating with the European initiative on the assumption that it is important for the establishment of international grounds for Palestinian participation?

[Answer] Europe is not detached from America. Naturally there is a slight contradiction between Europe and America but the European plan is not isolated from the American plan.

[Question] Can advantage be taken of these contradictions?

[Answer] We must necessarily take advantage of these contradictions provided that the price will not be the relinquishment of our strategic aims. What does Giscard d'Estaing want from the Palestinians? He wants us to recognize Israel. We want French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing to hear through AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI that the Palestinian people do not want to recognize Israel and will not permit this.

[Question] Will you ask the United Nations to adopt a resolution that will recognize your right to self-determination and call for your participation in the peace negotiations--that is, to insure your participation in the current political and diplomatic game?

[Answer] The UN resolutions, such as resolution 263, give us our right without linking it with the condition to recognize Israel. This kind of diplomatic activity is the only kind that serves the Palestinian revolution without undermining it. A diplomatic attempt is now being made to tame the PLO and its leadership. There are many enticements in this direction.

We have two observations to make on this subject:

1. The enticements that are now being offered will not succeed because the Zionist sides continue to reject the minimum, namely, the recognition of the existence of the Palestinians and the Palestinian state.

2. Those who are offering the enticements seek to make Israel an established fact. The thing they have imposed on As-Sadat has encouraged them to say that Israel is an established fact. We say that Israel will not be a fait accompli, historically. I realize that such talk does not please some people here and in Europe, but we have history before us and we also have before us an aggressive, fascist and cancerous presence which has displaced our people and which is threatening the entire Arab area with danger. Our masses will not accept that this Zionist cancer should continue to exist. The future generations of the year 2050 will find what I am saying is true.

[Question] During this sensitive phase, what do you propose to the Palestinian revolution and the Arab states?

[Answer] I propose that they cut off oil [supplies], that the oil states abandon the policy of increasing oil production, that pressure be exerted on the Arab states to open their doors and borders to the [Palestinian] resistance and that the Palestinian revolution and the "Lebanese Nationalist Movement" be given the capabilities to turn the south [of Lebanon] into a hot arena. Therefore, we have the oil weapon as an answer to the logic of the weak who are asking us to recognize Israel.

[Question] The oil weapon alone is not enough. Minimum Arab coordination and cooperation must be secured?

[Answer] A complete political, economic, propaganda and oil program is required. But I put emphasis on oil as a clear proof that we are not in a weak position that requires us to make all these concessions and view the European initiative as the only means of salvation. What can the European initiative offer us?

[Question] You visited Moscow recently and learned the Soviet viewpoint. How do you view the Soviet stand through current international and Arab events, taking into consideration the need to have the Soviet Union participate in solving the Middle East crisis?

[Answer] The Soviet stand is clear through its declared policy regarding our cause. We must differentiate between it and the Western camp because the Soviet Union does not have one avowed policy and another, secret, policy tucked away in a drawer. In the international sphere, the Soviets believe that imperialism is escalating its aggressive steps in several parts of the world in an attempt to solve its stifling crises such as inflation, unemployment and energy, by aggression and at the expense of the peoples. The Soviets do not and will not allow this. On the Arab level--the subject that interests us--the Soviets are now saying that the joint task of all of us is to bury Camp David first and then we will look into the next step.

[Question] Are you still opposed to a dialogue and cooperation between the PLO and Jordan and why?

[Answer] Yes. Our opposition to a dialogue and cooperation with Jordan has even deepened because the PLO's 1979 experience in its relations with the Jordanian regime proved the soundness of the PFLP's stands--that is, the advantages the PLO hoped to achieve by establishing a dialogue and cooperation did not materialize.

[Question] Can you elucidate this point further and give examples?

[Answer] In the political program, there are general rules governing the PLO's relationship with Jordan. One of these rules is that the resistance, including armed resistance, be allowed to return to the Jordanian arena. This has not happened and, to date, no Palestinian fighter has been allowed to be present there and the Palestinian masses have not been permitted to engage in political activities. Furthermore, Palestinian detainees are still being held in Jordanian prisons. The Jordanian regime has donned a national cloak that has enabled it to consolidate the position of its symbolic figures in the West Bank and the [Gaza] Strip and to begin talking in the name of the Palestinian revolution. This means that one way or another, the PLO's relationship with Jordan has paved the way for the Israeli MAPAI Party (Workers' Party) to reactivate its old plan--the united Arab kingdom plan. As for the resistance, it gained nothing from the regime. The most dangerous thing is that Jordan should become the substitute and, one day, a negotiating partner in the settlement.

[Question] Should the solution be split between the West Bank and Gaza Strip? What would your attitude be?

[Answer] The partitioning of the solution is one of the wicked plans our people must be aware of and confront after the failure of the negotiations on 26 May when several proposals are expected to be made to break the deadlock. Of these proposals we mention the following:

1. A tripartite Egyptian-Israeli-American mandate over the West Bank and Gaza Strip for a period of 3 years.

2. The European initiative.

3. Introducing King Husayn as a partner in the negotiations.

4. Persuading As-Sadat to embark on an attempt to apply self-rule in the Gaza Strip first.

Our estimation of the last step is that it is an evil maneuver to apply self-rule in stages. We reject this maneuver. It is our assessment that our masses, which have rejected Camp David and self-rule, will also reject this partial step.

[Question] [Syrian] President Hafiz al-Asad received you recently. How are the PFLP's relations with Syria at present?

[Answer] We and Syria are now in agreement on basic and central political attitudes toward the Palestinian revolution, particularly with regard to Camp David, self-rule and combating the plan to Zionize Lebanon. We are also agreed on other political issues which surfaced recently on the Palestinian and Arab arenas in the light of the intensified Zionist-imperialist-reactionary onslaught on the area. Our position regarding the present battles is that we and Syria are in the same trench. We consider our relationship with Syria to be good and we are trying to strengthen it.

[Question] What is the Israeli plan in Lebanon?

[Answer] To achieve on the Lebanese front what it has achieved on the Egyptian front. Menahem Begin said so more than once.

[Question] Meaning recognition?

[Answer] Exactly. Meeting, recognition, a treaty, economic cooperation and discussion of the Al-Litani River waters.

I believe that time has come for us to explain the facts frankly to the Lebanese people. I am aware that the Lebanese citizens want the situation in Lebanon to stabilize but it is important for them to know that the only way to stability is to defeat the local Lebanese force which is implementing the Zionist plan which, in our view, will not stop unless it achieves its aims or is defeated. We must frankly say that this plan has now become an effective factor in the current events in the Lebanese arena. If we, both Palestinians and Lebanese, agree on this analysis, there will be no problem between the Palestinian resistance and the Lebanese forces.

VOP: PNC, EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT GROUP ISSUE STATEMENT

NC241747 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Undated "text" of statement issued at the end of 17-20 April meeting in Strasbourg between the Palestine National Council [PNC] delegation and the Parliamentary Association for Euro-Arab Communication--read by announcer]

[Text] The conference was held at the European Palace in Strasbourg, which is the headquarters of the Council of Europe and the European Parliament. The meeting took place between 17 and 20 April between a delegation of the Palestine National Council [PNC] and members of the Parliamentary Association for Euro-Arab Communication.

Despite the timing of the meetings of the European Parliament and the Council of Europe, the Palestinian parliamentarians were able to meet with several members of the European Parliament as well as with members of the council.

The first subject discussed at this conference dealt with enlightening Western public opinion on the Palestinian people's legitimate membership and representational rights.

The Palestinian parliamentarians explained that the PNC, which is composed of 303 members, was democratically elected--circumstances permitting--and that this council fairly represents the Palestinian people according to the social and technical surveys conducted among the Palestinian people.

The Palestinian delegation, which was led by the chief of the PNC Foreign Relations Committee, Khalid al-Hasan, briefed the European Parliament on efforts to intensify the dialog between the PNC delegation and the European Parliament, with the aim of enlightening European public opinion on the efforts of the PLO and the PNC to establish a durable and just peace in the region and intensify the close cooperation between the European and Arab peoples.

The European Parliament delegation, headed by Michael (Declerc) and Dennis Walter, described the developments of the European attitude toward the Palestinian issue and commented on the importance of the work of the Council of Europe, which includes more than 350 members in the European Parliament and the European parliamentary associations.

The parliamentary association and the PNC decided to set up a permanent joint bureau as well as a secretariat in Strasbourg with the support of the Arab League.

It has been learned that in May certain members of the European Parliament will form a European group to bolster friendship and cooperation between the Arabs and Europe. Therefore, this group will aid the proposed joint secretariat. This group will also participate in the proposed conference due to take place this fall in (?The Hague). At this conference representatives of the Parliamentary Association and the Joint Arab Parliamentary Union, which comprises the PNC, will discuss political, economic and educational topics.

The conference also expressed its profound interest in peace and security in the Middle East and urged European governments to take individual and collective initiatives to help devise a just solution to the Palestinian issue based on UN General Assembly resolutions 3236 and 3237, which recognize the Palestinian people's rights to self-determination, to establish their independent state in Palestine, to return to their homeland and to encourage recognition of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian peoples.

The conference urged the European countries to extend economic, educational and cultural aid to the Palestinian people. The conference also emphasized the current proposed plans to cooperate with UNESCO in inaugurating the Palestinian university.

The European-Palestinian conference called on the Arab countries to intensify their efforts to improve their current objective propaganda campaign directed to Europe.

The delegations also expressed their support for the Irish representatives over the murder of two Irish UNIFIL soldiers by the Israeli-supported militia troops. The delegations requested that their message be conveyed to the Irish Government.

The head of the PNC Foreign Relations Committee, brother Khalid al-Hasan, proposed several concepts which might serve as the basis of a serious European initiative, and which should include controlled and consistent measures for implementation. These concepts, as noted by brother Khalid al-Hasan, would be acceptable to the Palestinians and are to be summed up as follows:

1. All the occupied lands must be evacuated. Following the evacuation, these lands must be placed under UN supervision for a 6 to 12 month period.

2. A popular referendum should be held in which all Palestinians should take part and should be allowed to practice their rights to self-determination.

3. A Palestinian state should be established, should the Palestinian people decide to do so.

4. UN-supervised negotiations should be held among all the parties concerned, including the Palestinians, in order to resolve the various other pending problems.

5. The United States, the Soviet Union and Europe should participate in this settlement, which should also be supervised by the United Nations in accordance with UN resolutions, particularly Resolution 3236.

VOP: 'ARAFAT RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM PDRY PRESIDENT

NC231700 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1515 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Excerpt] Brother commander Abu 'Ammar has received Muhammad 'Abd al-Qawi, special envoy of PDRY President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. At this meeting, which was attended by the PDRY charge d'affaires in Damascus, brother Abu 'Ammar was handed a letter from President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. This letter is connected with recent developments in the PDRY.

PNC'S AL-FAHUM DENIES REPORTS OF NEW PLO PLAN

JN231425 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1355 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] Damascus, 23 April--Brother Khalid al-Fahum, chairman of the Palestine National Council [PNC], has stated the following:

Arab news agencies have reported that there is a new PLO plan to find a solution to the Palestinian issue and that a PNC delegation is currently explaining this plan in the EEC capitals.

We would like to affirm:

1. The PNC delegation is currently visiting West European capitals at the invitation of the Parliamentary Association for Euro-Arab Communication in order to explain the Palestinian issue and the Palestinian people's struggle and their inalienable rights to return, determine their fate and establish an independent Palestinian state on Palestinian soil.

2. The above-mentioned delegation is not carrying any proposal for settling the Palestinian issue. Rather, the delegation is entrusted with discussing all that pertains to the Palestinian issue within the framework of the national charter and resolutions of the PNC.

3. Concerning what has been stated about a five-point plan proposed by the Palestinian delegation, we affirm that the PLO and its National Council neither studied nor agreed on such a plan. Furthermore, there is not intention to propose such a plan to the PNC during its coming session.

4. We would also like to affirm that the PNC delegation and any other PLO delegation is committed and adheres to the resolutions. Thus, such a delegation is unauthorized to go beyond or against these resolutions.

SPA: ISLAMIC STATES CALL ON U.S., IRAN TO RESOLVE DIFFERENCES

LD231256 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1155 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] Jiddah, 23 April--The Islamic states have expressed their deep concern in connection with the likelihood of U.S. military intervention in Iran if the problem of the U.S. hostages in Tehran is not resolved, and called on Iran and the United States to resolve their problems peacefully. Secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization Habib Chatti said that the General Secretariat of the organization, while recalling that the UN Charter prohibits resorting to force to resolve disputes between states, stresses the upholding by the last Islamic foreign ministers conference of the sovereignty, territorial integrity, security and political independence of the Republic of Iran, a member of the Islamic league. Mr Chatti reaffirmed that the Islamic states strongly oppose any threat, use of force, pressure, intervention or the imposition of any economic sanctions against Islamic Iran, or against any other Islamic state.

AMIR DESCRIBES RELATIONS WITH IRAN AS GOOD

LD241204 Kuwait KUNA in English 1030 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] Kuwait, April 24 (KUNA)--The Amir of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman al-Khalifah said his country has received assurances from Iran that it is keen about the security and stability of the Gulf region. In an interview with the Kuwaiti Daily AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM Thursday, Shaykh 'Isa described the Bahraini-Iranian relations as good.

Commenting on the Iranian religious leader Sadeq Rohani's statement that his country will revive claims to Bahrain, Shaykh Khalifah said that Bahrain received assurances from Iran that such statements reflect the opinion of their proponents only.

The Amir of Bahrain called for (?more) solidarity and cooperation among Gulf states in order to block attempts (?to) shake their stability. He described relations with Saudi Arabia and Kuwait as "strong and deep," and added that Iraq is a brother country and what befalls it affects Bahrain in the same way.

KUWAIT

AL WATAN COMMENTS ON REASONS FOR ISMA'IL'S RESIGNATION IN PDRY

LD241007 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 22 Apr 80 pp 1, 11

[Diplomatic editor report: "Bloodless Coup in Aden"]

[Excerpt] 'Abd al Fattah Isma'il's resignation from the state and party leadership in Southern Yemen yesterday came as a surprise to observers in the Gulf who believe that, although the state of his health was officially given as the reason for his resignation, his stepping down from leadership in these conditions in particular raises more than one question mark about the real reasons behind taking this step. Diplomatic sources in the area believe it is more likely that Isma'il, who was behind the long-term friendship treaty with the Soviet Union, was removed from his powerful political posts in a bloodless coup that resulted from a quiet power struggle.

It appears that this struggle was determined in favor of 'Ali Nasir Muhammad (the prime minister) who now holds the three most important posts in Aden which are his original post as prime minister, the leadership of the ruling party, and the head of state. Nasir Muhammad is known to be one of the closest people to the outgoing president because the two cooperated closely following the execution of late President Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali in June 1978. Rubayyi' 'Ali was accused of leading an abortive rightist coup attempt.

Nasir Muhammad is known to be a proponent of the policy of rapprochement with Saudi Arabia and the moderate Gulf countries although he remains an advocate of preserving relations with the Soviet Union. It could probably be understood from this that Isma'il was insisting on the hardline policy toward Saudi Arabia and, therefore, has lost the struggle.

Some observers tend to believe Aden's official explanation that Isma'il resigned because of health reasons while others interpret this step as being a prelude to changes in relations with Saudi Arabia. But both sides agree that Nasir Muhammad has unquestionably become the most powerful man in the only Arab state that follows a Marxist-Leninist political, economic and social line. Some observers even presume that Isma'il resigned because of the rapprochement with Northern Yemen.

South Yemeni Minister of Communication Muhammad 'Ushaysh yesterday arrived in San'a' carrying a message from President Nasir Muhammad to North Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih.

However, certain sources do not believe that the downfall of Isma'il will affect efforts to achieve unity with Northern Yemen, the unity which makes Saudi Arabia fear the spread of Marxism to the other part of Yemen. This fear makes Riyadh view with suspicion any plans to merge the two parts.

Meanwhile, other observers believe that Isma'il's resignation could probably be due to Moscow's desire for the need to adopt a more flexible stand in the area in view of the Soviet Union's increasing isolation in the Gulf.

IRANIAN ENVOY: QOTBZADEH TO VISIT GULF 'NEXT WEEK'

LD240946 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0840 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] Kuwait--The Iranian ambassador in Kuwait said here today that Iranian Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh will visit Kuwait within his tour of four Arabian Gulf states next week. Ambassador 'Ali Shams Ardakani told KUNA that the final date for this tour has not yet been fixed, but it is likely that Qotbzadeh will arrive in Kuwait on Monday to begin the tour which will include Bahrain, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates. He said that the tour could possibly take him to Syria and Lebanon.

Dr Ardakani said that the Foreign Minister will discuss bilateral relations with the aim of achieving as much understanding as possible between Iran and the four states. He will also discuss the American military presence in the region and the developments of the Middle East crisis. The ambassador denied that Qotbzadeh's talks would touch on the present differences between Iran and Iraq. He said this dispute must be solved between the two countries. He said there is "common ground" between Iran and the Arab states which oppose the Egyptian-Israeli-American Camp David agreements on the Middle East, and also with regard to the "Zionist entity."

AL-WATAN: U.S. STEPS AGAINST IRAN PART OF STRATEGIC PLAN

LD240929 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 21 Apr 80 p 1

[Editorial: "The Arabs and the American Fires"]

[Excerpts] The next step that Carter takes against Iran will be military action. He announced this at his press conference with an almost definite tone. It appears that the United States cannot operate without its war machine and that Middle East has been given priority in U.S. military plans post-Vietnam.

The Middle East's strategic importance is prompting the United States toward adventure. U.S. military action is being prepared with an arms buildup and the establishment of military bases and facilities. Iran is not the only target of what is happening in our area now, since it is not the only oil-producing or strategic country in the area. The Arab countries have greater oil resources and are of greater strategic importance. The unlawful U.S. objectives in the area are: To plunder large quantities of the oil wealth at low prices; to suppress the nationalist movements and encourage dictatorial and police regimes; to establish military bases, strike at the peoples' interests, create sectarian, political and economic divisions among them, and facilitate the dismemberment and occupation of our territories; to exploit the peoples, markets and raw materials wealth of the area and use the area as a stepping stone and base for attacking Third World countries.

Any U.S. military action or similar move against Iran could therefore only be part of the overall strategic plan for the Arab area. If we imagine that what is happening in Iran is the direct reason for the U.S. moves, we are ignoring reality.

If the Arabs are now witnessing fire and smoke spreading around and inside their countries, it is because they have allowed As-Sadat and his ilk to open the door to American plans. Berbera is not far from Sharjah, and Juniyah is not far from Damascus. The Arab regimes, the majority of which are preoccupied with internal differences, must prepare to put out the coming American fires.

PRIME MINISTER RECEIVES IRAQI OIL MINISTER

LD231050 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Summary] This morning Prime Minister Sa'd al-'Abdullah as-Sabah received Iraqi Oil Minister 'Abd al-Karim Tayih who is currently visiting Kuwait.

SAUDIA ARABIA

KING RECEIVES PDRY DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER

LD231836 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1505 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] Riyadh--At 1715 today, His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received at the Ma'dar Palace the PDRY deputy foreign minister, Abduh 'Ali 'Abd ar-Rahman, who handed His Majesty a letter from the new chairman of the PDRY Presidential Council, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. Present at the meeting were: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, prime minister: His Royal Highness Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of defense and aviation; and His Royal Highness Sa'ud al-Faysal, minister of foreign affairs.

The PDRY deputy foreign minister arrived in Riyadh earlier today.

SUPREME JUDICIAL COUNCIL CONDEMNS BRITISH TV FILM.

LD242110 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1930 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Excerpts] Riyadh, 24 April, SPA--The Supreme Judicial Council has condemned the television film shown in Britain and the Netherlands and which aimed at distorting the reputation of the kingdom and spreading lies about the order of Islam and its sound rulings. Here is the text of the statement issued by the Supreme Judicial Council:

Thanks be to God and peace be upon His messenger and His family and on those who supported Him. The disgraceful television film production which was aimed at distorting the reputation of this country in Britain and which was shown in the Netherlands has created great dissatisfaction among the Islamic quarters at all levels, especially among the learned circles. Therefore, the Supreme Judicial Council in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia held a special meeting last Sunday, 19 April, to study the situation and issue a statement on this matter. After the meeting it issued a resolution explaining that what the film producers and those who showed it had done was an assault on Islam and a distortion of facts and a spreading of lies on the wise order of Islam and its sound rulings. The council decided that the forbidden meeting between man and woman on their own and the multiplicity of illicit meetings and night contacts between them are among the most serious and ugly crimes, and they represent a most serious danger to the soundness of society whose cohesion is maintained through the morals, noble principles and teachings of Islam, a society which abides by God's law [words indistinct].

The action of the above-mentioned is regarded as an evil initiative against this Muslim country which is proud of its religion. It is the duty of the legal guardian to impose on the person who violates the law of God and who scorns the feeling of Muslims and who spreads evil in the land the suitable punishment so as to prevent corruption and so as to safeguard what is sacred to people even if this punishment is death, because God has allowed the killing of the one who spreads evil in the land if his evil doing was great and harmful to Muslim society and violated the morals and guiding principles of Islam.

The council confirms that what the enemies of Islam have done will only make the rulers of this country stronger and more obliged to carry out the punishments of Islam, and this will only increase the respect of the Islamic world for them and will make it proud of their firmness in relation to what is right and of their courage in carrying out the rulings of God justly on every criminal, no matter what any tendentious person may say. This is in accordance with the will of God and that of His messenger, may God's peace be upon him.

FOREIGN OFFICIALS ARRIVE IN JIDDAH FOR VISITS

Bangladeshi Prime Minister

LD241212 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1145 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Excerpt] Jiddah--Prime Minister of Bangladesh Shah Azizur Rahman arrived in Jiddah today on a visit to the kingdom during which he will perform the minor pilgrimage.

Taiwan Interior Minister

LD250102 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2300 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] Jiddah, 24 April--Chiu Chuang-huan, the interior minister of Nationalist China arrived in Jiddah tonight on an 8-day visit. He said that he will deliver a message to Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the deputy prime minister and crown prince, from the Nationalist Chinese prime minister. He will also hold talks with Saudi Interior Minister Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz on matters of mutual interest in the field of public security.

UAE

PRESIDENT RECEIVES SAUDI NATIONAL GUARD CHIEF

JN242118 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 2040 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 24 April--UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al Nuhayyan this evening received His Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al Sa'ud, second deputy prime minister and chief of the Saudi National Guard.

The 90-minute meeting was held at the al-Musharraf Palace and was attended by His Higness Surur ibn Muhammad, director of the President's office; Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz at-Tuwayjiri, deputy chief of the Saudi National Guard and the Saudi ambassador to the UAE.

ENA has learned that during the meeting, the discussion focused on the current Arab and international situation, particularly the situation in the Gulf area and fraternal relations between the two countries and ways of strengthening them in all fields.

BAHRAINI AMIR ARRIVES IN ABU DHABI ON PRIVATE VISIT

JN250850 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0830 GMT 25 Apr 80

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi, 25 April--The Amir of Bahrain, his highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, arrived in Zayid port in Abu Dhabi this morning on a private 3-day visit to the UAE at the invitation of UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan. In a statement upon arrival, his highness the amir of Bahrain expressed his happiness at visiting the UAE. He said that he will meet with his highness the UAE President to exchange viewpoints on issues of common interest and to confirm the depth of the bonds of destiny between Bahrain and the UAE.

PDRY

AFGHANISTAN'S KARMAL CONGRATULATES 'ALI NASIR MUHAMMAD

LD241400 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 23 Apr 80 EA

[Excerpt] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad has received a congratulatory cable from Comrade Babrak Karmal, secretary general of the Democratic People's Party of Afghanistan, chairman of the Revolutionary Council and chairman of the Council of Ministers of Democratic Afghanistan, the text of which follows:

On behalf of the Central Committee of the Democratic People's Party of Afghanistan, the Revolutionary Council, the government and people of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, and on my own personal behalf, I am pleased to extend to you our warm congratulations on your election as secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly of the PDRY. I am confident that under the leadership of the YSP the Yemeni people will successfully forge ahead on the path toward progress and prosperity and that under your leadership the comradely relations the cooperation between our two parties and peoples will develop and be strengthened in the interests of our two countries and those of peace in the world. Dear comrade, please accept my sincerest wishes to you for success in your important work.

OFFICIAL: ISMA'IL RESIGNATION 'NORMAL' NO POLICY CHANGE

LD241621 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 23 Apr 80 pp 1, 15

[Unattributed report: "Isma'il's Illness Cause of His Resignation; 'Ali Nasir: 'Alliance With Moscow Continuing'"]

[Excerpts] The new South Yemeni president has reaffirmed his country's commitment to the alliance with the Soviet Union. A senior South Yemeni official who visited Kuwait yesterday rejected press speculation that the change in the top leadership in Aden was the result of an internal power struggle. He described such speculation as aspersions cast by certain news agencies and papers.

The Yemeni official, deputy foreign minister 'Abduh 'Ali 'Abd ar-Rahman, said that 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il resigned his post as head of state and general secretary of the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] because of illness. He said that the change took place in a normal manner and that there will be no changes in PDRY internal or external policies.

'Abd ar-Rahman was speaking to journalists after his talks with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir and Foreign Under Secretary Rashid ar-Rashid. The Yemeni official also met with his highness the ruler and delivered to him a message from the new leader in Aden 'Ali Nasir Muhammad.

'Abd ar-Rahman, who arrived in the country last night, said that he had come to Kuwait carrying a message from 'Ali Nasir Muhammad regarding the PDRY leadership changes.

Speaking about the election of 'Ali Nasir Muhammad as head of state and YSP general secretary, 'Abd ar-Rahman said that, contrary to news agency and newspaper reports about the reasons for brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il resignation, the resignation was due to Isma'il's illness. The change was carried out in a very normal manner and with the party's approval.

'Abd ar-Rahman said that Isma'il has handed over "the banner" to Nasir Muhammad in order to continue the march.

However, he declined to answer questions regarding the nature of Isma'il's illness and only said: We all are likely to become ill.

The Yemeni official then left for Saudi Arabia and the UAE in order to deliver similar messages from President Nasir Muhammad.

'ALI NASIR MUHAMMAD CHAIRS PRESIDIUM SESSION

LD241538 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 24 Apr 80 EA

[Text] The Presidium of the People's Supreme Assembly held a regular session this morning with brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party Central Committee, acting chairman of the Presidium of the People's Supreme Assembly and chairman of the Council of Ministers, in the chair.

The Presidium discussed the new system for awarding decorations and honorary titles and examined draft laws on the official gazette, social security and the term of local people's councils. It also studied the annual report of the central organ for auditing final accounts and a report by the republic's public prosecutor on breaches of the law. It also discussed ratification of the cultural agreement between the PDRY and the Government of People's Republic of Mongolia.

Finally, the Presidium studied preparations for the next session of the People's Supreme Assembly, which begins Saturday.

Communique Issued

LD241542 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 24 Apr 80 EA

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, acting chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers, has issued a press communique on the eighth session ofthe Central Committee held 20-23 April 1980.

The communique stated that the Central Committee had studied a number of important political, economic, cultural, social and party matters relating to the activities of our party and regime and aimed at deepening the revolutionary changes in our country and marching resolutely along the road of accomplishing the tasks of the democratic national revolution (?through) its socialist horizons. [sentence as heard]

The communique also dealt with a number of current local, Arab and international issues. It stressed that current developments in the world today testified to the consolidation of socialism's position in the world and the collapse of capitalism. The communique also warned that world imperialism is exerting feverish efforts, through the Carter-Begin-Sadat axis, to force the Camp David capitulatory accord upon the Arab nation. It stressed the resolve of the Arab liberation movements to confront this imperialist policy. It hailed the splendid steadfastness of the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples, the setting up of the Egyptian democratic national front and the growing official recognition of the PLO by several countries.

It also pointed out that the Fourth Summit Conference of Steadfastness and Confrontation was an important step in intensifying national and progressive efforts to torpedo the Camp David accord.

The communique also pointed out that the Central Committee hailed the activities of the Yemeni unity committees and stressed the importance of the continued implementation of their decisions.

The communique reviewed domestic economic issues and the steps taken to improve the economic standard of the masses. It hailed these achievements as a natural fruit of socialist-oriented democratic production relations under the leadership of the YSP.

The Central Committee analyzed economic conditions in the country and said a solution to economic problems is linked with the reinforcement of our leading party's role in educating the masses of toilers ideologically and politically, and strengthening the party's support by the working class and the rest of the toiling social groups.

The communique also dealt with the tasks of propaganda and instigation [tahrid] and stressed the importance of strengthening them to oppose [word indistinct] propaganda directed against our national struggle.

'ALI NASIR MUHAMMAD RECEIVES PFLO LEADER

LD242000 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 24 Apr 80 EA

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] Central Committee, acting chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received in his office this morning Brother 'Abd al-Hafiz Juman, member of the executive committee of the Central Committee of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman [PFLO], who congratulated Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad on his election as secretary general of the YSP Central Committee.

Views were exchanged on a number of issues concerning the development and reinforcement of the militant relations between the Yemeni and Omani revolutions.

Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad emphasized the historical ties between the Yemeni and Omani peoples in their struggle to eliminate foreign influence and achieve national independence. He pointed out the importance of developing the militant relations between the YSP and the PFLO and all the Arab democratic nationalist forces struggling against imperialism, Zionism and reaction. He reaffirmed the PDRY's backing for the struggle of the brotherly Omani people, led by the PFLO.

DEPUTY TRADE AND SUPPLY MINISTER APPOINTED

LD200042 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 19 Apr 80 EA

[Summary] Premier 'Ali Nasir Muhammad has issued a Council of Ministers decree appointing 'Ali 'Abd al-Karim Muhammad Deputy Minister of Trade and Supply

YAR

PDRY OFFICIAL ARRIVES WITH MESSAGE FOR PRESIDENT

JN241305 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] 'Ali Asad Muthana, minister of state for the Council of Ministers in the southern part of the homeland, arrived in San'a' today.

In a statement to the SABA' NEWS AGENCY, Muthana said that he is carrying a verbal message to President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih from his brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, acting chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and Prime Minister in the southern part of the homeland. He added that his visit takes place within the framework of coordinating joint efforts to reestablish the unity of the two parts of the homeland. Brother Muthana was received by Husayn ad-Daf'i, the president's advisor on unity affairs, the chief of protocol and other officials.

AS-SADAT PRAISES CARTER'S EFFORTS FOR PEACE

NC241315 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat said today that had it not been for U.S. President Carter's efforts and perseverance, peace would not have been achieved in the Middle East. The president was speaking during his meeting with Mrs Lillian Carter, the mother of the U.S. President, who handed President as-Sadat a gift from President Carter.

GHALI COMMENTS ON EUROPEAN COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

NC241537 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] Commenting on yesterday's resolutions of the European Parliamentary Council, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali said that these resolutions reflect a position identical to that of Egypt. The council's resolutions, he said, praise President as-Sadat's bold initiative, emphasize the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, condemn the Israeli settlements policy in the occupied territory--describing this policy as an obstacle to peace--and maintain that the Egyptian-Israeli treaty is a step toward peace in the Middle East.

Dr Ghali added that Egypt has emphasized these principles and is working for their fulfillment. Egypt, he said, supports any consultation with Europe aimed at boosting its efforts to establish a comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East.

GHALI DISCUSSES NONALIGNMENT, AFGHANISTAN WITH CUBAN ENVOY

NC241618 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1552 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] Cairo, 24 April--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali today received the Cuban ambassador in Cairo, Domingo Garcia. They discussed the nonaligned movement.

We have learned that during the meeting Dr Ghali asked about Cuba's role, in its capacity as the chair country of the nonaligned movement, and about the movement's role regarding current events in Afghanistan.

They also discussed relations between the two countries.

MENA: EGYPT, ROMANIA SIGN TRADE AGREEMENT

NC231217 Cairo MENA in English 1123 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] Cairo, April 23 (MENA)--Egypt and Romania today signed an agreement at the premises of the Land Reclamation Ministry for the setting up of an industrial agricultural plant on an area of 5,000 fedans (acres), south of the Tahrir Province.

The agreement stipulates that work on the implementation of the project begins as of next month, with the objective of producing vegetables and dairy products for local consumption and export.

Meanwhile, this venture comes within the framework of a protocol for economic cooperation in the domain of land reclamation, signed in 1979 between Egypt and Rumania and stipulating the carrying out of four projects with joint Egyptian-Rumanian capital.

SADDAM HUSAYN: NATION MUST BE SHIELD DEFENDING ARABS

JN242113 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2030 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] Baghdad, 24 April--President Saddam Husayn has reiterated that the Iraqi people will continue their struggle and will boundlessly offer sacrifices for the sake of the land, the nation and its dignity.

Addressing the folk poets seminar here today, President Saddam Husayn said that our people are stressing day after day to those bearing grudges and to covetors that they represent the sword, honor, palm tree and the olive branch. He added that the people of the Euphrates and Tigris were never shaken by setbacks or submitted to tyrants. The Iraqi people have always lived with honor and dignity and so they do in death. The Iraqi people do this not only for the sake of the Iraqis but for all the Arabs.

His excellency explained that when they assert that they are defending the Arab character and Arab land everywhere, the Iraqi people do so not because they are the leaders of the Arabs, but because they are their servants. President Saddam Husayn said: We must be as always the strong shield defending the Arab nation and the sword in the face of enemies throughout the Arab homeland.

His excellency added: We will never forget the cries of an orphan or a widow in Egypt, Syria and Palestine. We will also never forget the cries of the Arabs in Arabistan. President Saddam Husayn asserted that Iraq will not permit grudge-bearers to play havoc with the land of Iraq or that of the Arab homeland.

BAGHDAD IN PERSIAN CALLS ON STUDENTS TO OVERTHROW KHOMEYNI

NC241616 Baghdad in Persian to Iran 0730 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excertps] Long live the relentless struggle of the brave Iranian students: Dear listeners, student masses of the universities, institutes and vocational schools of Iran: self-sacrificing mojahedin fighting for justice, freedom and democracy: brave strugglers who are today standing firmly and giving martyrs in your heroic struggles against Khomeyni's ruling gang and against the dictatorship of the new shah and Carter's subservient stooges in Iran: resolute and valiant people of Iran:

Only yesterday you lost the most precious and fearless choice elements on the altar of freedom for the sake of freedom and turned your hopeful breasts into shields against the executioners' bullets in order to overthrow the traitorous shah: You led all classes of Iranian people, started demonstrations and sit-ins everywhere, urged the workers and farmers to revolt with empty hands and fought the puppet shah's regime because your firm determination, freedom and democracy were much greater and more dear than your lives.

But today, o dear and self-sacrificing students, Khomeyni has unleashed his criminal gang and murderers--the meanest vestiges of society and veteran murders, torturers and criminals--against the universities, institutes and vocational schools in order to besiege you and murder you en masse. Khomeyni has mobilized these veteran and malicious hooligans to murder the spirit of freedom which is deep within you, and to behead democracy which is in the pure conscience of you the vigilant and brave children. But you know far better why he has aimed his treacherous offensive especially at you; because you are the pure conscience of the Iranian people and in a position to tell, far better than others, justice from

injustice; because you form the aware and intellectual strata of society and are strong-willed and resistant strugglers against despotism, domination, individual injustice and against the new turbaned shah. This deceitful demagogue is fighting you today and has killed or injured about 1,300 of you--strugglers toward freedom. He is committing exactly the same crime against you that the puppet shah committed, but with more cruel and disastrous means and with more coordination with imperialism, which has placed Khomeyni at its service.

Struggling students: We swear to God that the shah was overthrown from his throne only with the strength of your arms, o brave and fearless children of the Iranian people. You should know that SAVAK was dismantled only with the strength of your clenched and crushing fists of iron. The Iranian masses followed you--the true and vigilant representatives--and made the revolution bear fruit. Therefore you face a bigger and heavier responsibility today. By overthrowing the puppet shah's regime, you self-sacrificing and brave children trod only half your path. Now it is your urgent and inevitable duty to tread the other half of this thorny path by overthrowing Khomeyni who robbed and diverted your revolution midway and unjustly usurped the leadership.

Students: Alert and vigilant children of the Iranian people: Justice is yours! All the people and freedom-seekers throughout the world are next to you and have turned their hopes to you. Do not hesitate to resist the criminal bands of Khomeyni wherever you clash with them. Do not show weakness and instability; crush them to defend the just rights of the Iranian people and to defend the decrees and commandments of the mission of true Islam, because these veteran murderers are not worthy of mercy and compassion.

Down with the oppressive executioner Khomeyni and his corrupt and criminal gang! Forward to crush the pharaonic castle of oppression and cruelty of Khomeyni, this successor of the executioner of the Iranian people, the shah!

UAE PETROLEUM MINISTER PAYS BRIEF VISIT

Greeting to President

JN241121 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1045 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] Baghdad, 24 April--President Saddam Husayn received in the presidential palace today UAE Petroleum and Natural Resources Minister Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah. Dr al-'Utaybah conveyed greetings to President Saddam Husayn from his brother UAE President Shaykh Zayid Ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan. During the meeting, which was attended by RCC member and Oil Minister Tayih 'Abd al-Karim, the discussion dealt with the fraternal bilateral relations, particularly in the field of oil, in the interest of the two fraternal peoples. Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah arrived in Baghdad this morning on a brief visit to Iraq.

Departure for Abu Dhabi

JN241122 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1105 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] Baghdad, 24 April--UAE Petroleum and Natural Resources Minister Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah left Baghdad for Abu Dhabi this afternoon following a visit of several hours. He was seen off at the airport by RCC member and Oil Minister Tayih 'Abd al-Karim.

EXPENDITURES CUT FOR ARMED FORCES, SECURITY, CIVIL DEFENSE

JN232050 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Excerpt] The Cabinet convened for 3 hours today under Prime Minister ash-Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf. It listened to a detailed report on the state's financial situation, which it had previously requested. The cabinet discussed this report at great length. The Cabinet also discussed administrative bodies. In light of the discussions and studies submitted to it, the Cabinet decided on the following: 1) A 10 percent decrease in current expenditures of all ministries and government institutions, with the exception of fixed expenditures and those to which the treasury is committed. The treasury will have to study requirements of the ministry of education, such as its needs for teachers in order to cope with the increasing numbers of students; 2) A 5 percent decrease in current expenditures for the armed forces, general security and civil defense; 3) Allocating the sums saved as a result of such decreases in expenditures to make reasonable improvements in the standard of living of the armed forces' administrative personnel, effective the beginning of next month, while giving priority to persons with the lowest income.

Following the Cabinet meeting, Prime Minister ash-Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf stated that the decision is in implementation of the policy the government adheres to of controlling expenditures and thus contributing to controlling inflation and stressing self-reliance rather than relying on foreign states.

The amount to be saved as a result of such procedures will be used so that the standard of living of the armed forces' and civilian personnel will be moderately improved, while giving special consideration to those with the lowest income.

AD-DUSTUR EDITORIAL ON CARTER-PERES MEETING

JN250859 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 25 Apr 80

[From the press review]

[Text] In its editorial today, the newspaper AD-DUSTUR comments on yesterday's meeting in Washington between U.S. President Carter and Shimon Peres, leader of the Israeli opposition Labor Party, and the statements made by the U.S. President on the Middle East conflict. Under the headline, "Carter: In Search of Self," AD-DUSTUR says: One of the astonishing and puzzling departures of the white House's policy on the Middle East conflict is for President Carter to reach the psychological state of feeling that he is an Israeli citizen regarding four matters upon which Peres has said that Israeli public opinion broadly agree. These four points, which Peres reviewed with the U.S. President yesterday, are:

1) The retention of unified Jerusalem as the capital of Israel; 2) Opposition to the establishment of a Palestinian state; 3) Refusal to negotiate with the PLO; 4) The implementation of the Camp David accords in letter and spirit.

Therefore, we can easily conclude that the situation in the region is going from bad to worse. Nothing will change in Israel as long as Begin is in power and nothing will change if the Labor opposition come to power. The United States, whose President has expressed his increasing feeling as an Israeli citizen regarding all of Israel's intransigent stands on which both the government and the opposition agree, cannot take decisive action in the area in favor of just peace because the U.S. commitment to Israel as an expansionist power goes beyond reason and logic. AD-DUSTUR concludes its editorial by saying: We hope that the U.S. President's concern for his Israeli citizenship, by his adoption of Israel's most extremist stands, will be an important incentive for the EEC to reassess its interests in the Middle East before it formulates its initiative, which should be outside the framework of the Camp David accords.

VOH: SOUTHERN ROADS NOT OPEN TO IRISH UNIFIL CONTINGENT

NC250817 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0600 GMT 25 Apr 80

[Excerpts] All roads in Free Lebanon were yesterday opened for the movement of the UN emergency forces, except for the Irish contingent. Members of this contingent will not be able to move on the Free Lebanon roads until reconciliation is achieved between them and the Al-Bazzi family in Bint Jubayl.

The commander of Free Lebanon, Major Haddad, said at a press conference, attended by correspondents from throughout the world, held in Bint Jubayl yesterday, that confining the soldiers of the Irish contingent to their area of operation was for their own good and to protect their lives.

We have learned that a number of Netherlands soldiers, who served in the UN forces here, have contacted Major Haddad asking him to permit them to join the Free Lebanon forces under his command. They said their presence with UNIFIL in southern Lebanon made them understand the situation and the noble aims for which the Free Lebanese soldier is fighting.

Major Haddad thanked the Netherlands volunteers for their offer, and expressed his readiness to receive them if they arrive in Free Lebanon through Lebanese territory.

Our correspondent in Bint Jubayl reports that during a visit to see military equipment of the Free Lebanon forces, he saw a number of jeep vehicles equipped with Russian-made Sagger antitank rockets. Major Haddad told our correspondent that our forces had seized these rockets from the terrorists 2 years ago and others are from the Lebanese Army arsenal. Major Haddad said that he decided to put these rockets in operation after UNIFIL forces fired heavy TOW antitank rockets against Free Lebanon forces vehicles.

SARKIS RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM PDRY LEADER

NC250956 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 25 Apr 80

[Text] At 1000 today, President Ilyas Sarkis received Muhammad 'Ali 'Abd al-Qawi, the special envoy of the chairman of the presidium of the PDRY Supreme People's Council, in the presence of the Yemeni Charge d'Affaires 'Abdallah Ahmad.

After the half-hour meeting, the Yemeni envoy said: We were happy to convey to President Ilyas Sarkis a message from Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad connected with the relations between the two countries and developments in the Arab arena in general and in our region in particular.

AL-ASAD INTERVIEWED BY BULGARIAN PRESS DELEGATION

JN241352 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad gave a statement today in reply to a number of questions by the press delegation which accompanied Bulgarian State Council Chairman Todor Zhivkov during his visit to Syria. President Hafiz al-Asad said that State Council Chairman Todor Zhivkov's visit was a very successful one. He added that the discussions were conducted in a fraternal and friendly atmosphere. This was a natural thing due to the strong friendship which has existed between me and the chairman for a number of years and due to the friendship that links Syria and Bulgaria.

The president added that there are strong relations between the Ba'th Party and the Bulgarian Communist Party. For years, we have been waging a serious struggle against U.S. imperialism. We have been launching a joint, continuous battle in the same trecnh. The president said: We appreciate the stands of Chairman Zhivkov and that of Bulgaria, which supports our just struggle against Zionism and imperialism.

The president explained that he and Chairman Zhivkov discussed bilateral relations and that a committee made up of the two delegations was set up to discuss and explore new spheres of cooperation, acting on the need to develop such cooperation. He said that there are many fields in which cooperation can be developed. The discussions also tackled the situation in the region. The two leaders' assessment was identical and their views were united on what must be done. The international situation was also reviewed in general. President al-Asad said: Following these discussions, we agreed to strengthen cooperation and friendship between the two countries to the maximum because both states are convinced that strengthening relations of cooperation and friendship is in the interest of our countries, our friends and free forces in the world. The strengthening of these relations will be very important to our strugggle against imperialism and Zionism and all forces of aggression.

President Hafiz al-Asad expressed his happiness over meeting with Chairman Zhivkov in Damascus. He requested the Bulgarian press delegation to convey his greetings and those of the Syrian people to Bulgarian journalists and to the friendly Bulgarian people.

PRESIDENT CABLES CONGRATULATIONS TO PDRY LEADER

JN241536 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1345 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] Damascus, 24 April--President Hafiz al-Asad has sent a cable of congratulations to President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad on the occasion of his being elected secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party and PDRY Supreme People's Council Presidium chairman. The following is the text of the cable:

On the occasion of your being elected secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party and Supreme People's Council Presidium chairman, it pleases me to send you the most sincere congratulations and wishes for your success in your responsibilities. The fraternal ties existing between our sisterly countries have been strengthened by belonging to the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front and by our joint efforts within this front to support the Arab nations' steadfastness and to back its struggle against the forces of aggression and the Camp David plans which aim at imposing U.S. and Zionist imperialist hegemony over the Arab region. I am certain that these relations will be stronger for the good of our Arab people in both countries and of the Arab nation.

I wish you good health and happiness and the people of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen continued progress and prosperity.

PDRY DEFENSE MINISTER ARRIVES IN DAMASCUS 24 APR

JN242138 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] PDRY Defense Minister 'Ali Ahmad Nasir 'Antar arrived in Damascus this evening at the head of an official delegation on a visit to Syria. The PDRY defense minister was welcomed at Damascus international airport by the deputy commander in chief of the army and armed forces and defense minister and several officers from the general command.

AL-ASAD RECEIVES SHI'ITE OFFICIAL

JN241436 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1335 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] Damascus, 24 April--President Hafiz al-Asad today received Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams ad-Din, deputy chairman of the Islamic Shi'ite higher council in Lebanon. The two sides discussed developments in the Lebanese arena and the affairs of southern Lebanon.

TISHRIN COMMENTS ON 'U.S.-MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD DIALOGUE'

JN250753 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 25 Apr 80

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] Under the headline "The Scope of the U.S.-Muslim Brotherhood Dialogue," the newspaper TISHRIN says: In its arduous search to enhance the chances of as-Sadat's success, the United States diagnoses his crisis from the fact that his social base is narrowing with time. The political groups seeking to topple As-Sadat include all the Egyptian political forces: peasants, workers and nationalist capitalism.

The lessons gained from the experience in Iran demonstrate that the continued support of the army and police machinery for As-Sadat is fraught with real danger. As for the support of parasites, it is of no value. The National Democratic Party, As-Sadat's party, groups these parasites together and is not any more immune than the Pahlavi Rastakhiz party in Iran.

The agenda of the U.S.-Muslim Brotherhood negotiations can be understood from this perspective and through it we can also understand why these negotiations enjoy As-Sadat's blessings. In view of the Muslim Brotherhood Organization's ability to raise slogans that influence the sentiments of the masses, the United States is trying to broaden As-Sadat's social base through this organization. However, it is inevitable that the Egyptian masses will soon expose the falsehood of the Brotherhood's slogans. The United States will thus gain time to normalize trade relations with Israel, the normalization which is the core of the U.S. plan.

As for the statement by the leader of the Muslim Brotherhood Organization in Jordan, it indicates that the U.S.-Muslim Brotherhood dialogue includes, in addition to the Egyptian arena, other Arab countries. This means that the United States is entrusting the Muslim Brotherhood with a mission in the entire homeland.

TURKISH PAPER INTERVIEWS DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER

NC250958 Istanbul GUNAYDIN in Turkish 23 Apr 80 p 5

[Exclusive interview granted by the Syrian deputy foreign minister to GUNAYDIN correspondent Resat Akar--date not given]

[Text] While a vast majority of the people are of the opinion that the uprising in Syria stems from the corrupt regime, the Syrian authorities evaluate the situation from a different angle.

During a long talk in Damascus, Nasir al-Qaddur, deputy minister of foreign affairs of Syria, [name and title as published] maintained that Carter, Begin and as-Sadar are in collusion for big plans intended to cause agitation in Syria. Al-Qaddur added: "The United States, which has fully embraced as-Sadat, has no difficulty in finding mercenary murderers to foment trouble in Syria."

Stating that today's Syrian Government strongly opposes the Camp David agreement and that this infuriates the United States, Nasir al-Qaddur continued: "What the United States actually wishes to do is to keep us busy at home with terrorism and to weaken our struggle against the Camp David agreement. But these events will, by no means, bring about any changes in Syria. Our security forces are waging a ruthless campaign against the mercenaries." Nasir al-Qaddur replied to other questions as follows:

[Question] The uprising of the Muslim Brotherhood is attributed to the attitude of the present administration. What would you say to this?

[Answer] This uprising is definitely not against the attitude of the administration. It is obvious that these incidents are being directed from outside. The United States, Egypt and Israel want a government in Syria which would bow to the Camp David agreement. With this objective in mind, they generously bribe poor youngsters and through them, try to escalate terrorism. The documents and Israeli arms seized in Aleppo provide adequate proof of this.

[Question] Can you say that Muslims enjoy adequate freedom in Syria?

[Answer] The Muslim Brotherhood does not have a leader in Syria. Under the mask of religion, innocent people are used as tools of terrorism. For though Islam is experiencing its best period, money from outside is causing unrest in our country. More mosques were built in Syria in the last decade than over the centuries. On the prophet's birthday, President al-Asad and his entire cabinet went to the mosque to participate in the celebrations. This proves our sensitive attitude toward Muslims.

Nasir al-Qaddur then stated that Syria was making intensive efforts to improve its relations with Iraq. Commenting on the Iraqi-Iranian friction, he said: "The Iraqis are our brethren. Iran, on the other hand, has become friendly with us after the revolution. We, therefore, hate to see these two countries in conflict. For such a conflict can only serve the expansionist ambitions of the United States. We would happily welcome PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat's mediation between these two countries."

ZHIVKOV DINNER SPEECH IN DAMASCUS

For the text of the speech given by Bulgarian Communist Party First Secretary Todor Zhivkov at a dinner given in his honor 21 April see the Bulgaria section of the 25 April Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT.

ALGERIA

FURTHER REPORTS ON VIOLENCE IN TIZI OUZOV

'Eyewitness': 32 Killed

ID241904 Paris Domestic Service in French 1700 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] What is really happening in Algeria? In the Kabylie capital of Tizi Quzou, the students requesting cultural autonomy have challenged the central power. There have been riots and ransackings, but no one can confirm these reports because the Algerian Army surrounds the town from which foreigners, in particular journalists, are banned. The only witness is a Kabylie man who has just come out of Algeria and had answered questions from Christian Bilman. In his opinion, the troubles in Tizi Quzou have resulted in some deaths: [Begin recording]

[Kabylie civilian] They brought in troops from a region called Skikda. They were the same troops that came Saturday night and took the university in an assault. Following this attack, there were 32 deaths [word indistinct] who were murdered.

[Bilman] What happened?

[Answer] As you know, the university was occupied by students and as a result an army commando was sent to intervene. They attacked the students while they were asleep, forced the gates, entered the buildings and the soldiers (?came in from four places) and they charged using bayonets. They attacked both the male and the female students and rapes took place.

[Question] What did you see in the streets of Tizi Ouzou?

[Answer] What I saw in the streets of Tizi Ouzou was that the student movement was being followed by 100 percent of the population and that no shop was open. The big state-owned shops were ransacked, and a few days ago I saw a convoy of troops arrive to reinforce the others. Believe me, the atmosphere in town was (?very tense). [end recording]

This is what the Kabylies say and one must take it with a pinch of salt. It is information which cannot be checked and which Algiers denies. The official newspaper EL MOUDJAHID says there were no deaths in Tizi Ouzou, but admits however that 32 people, among whom were 12 students, were arrested.

Minister Blames 'Overseas' Plot

NC241313 Paris AFP in English 1304 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] Algiers, April 24 (AFP)--Forty people were injured and 32 arrested during disturbances this week in the town of Tizi Ouzou, capital of the Berber (non-Arab) region of Kabylie, the official Algerian newspaper EL MOUDJAHID reported today. The paper denied reports circulating among students here that deaths had occurred in clashes with security forces who moved in to clear Tizi Ouzou University after it had been closed by the authorities last weekend.

EL MOUDJAHID said that student riots in support of official recognition of a separate Berber culture had been managed by agitators as part of "a plot prepared overseas and using agents in our midst." Meanwhile further [as received] Education Minister Abdelhak Berarhi repeated statements 2 days ago by the Algerian news agency that the arrests had smashed an organisation which had infiltrated the students in Tizi Ouzou. Mr Berahri said on television last night that the organisation had an office in Paris, whose exact address and bank account number was known to the authorities. Futher details would be made public later, he added.

The minister accused the organisation of backing a "tiny number" of students in a bid to harm national unity under a prepared plan using "fringe problems" such as the use of the Berber language, dialects and the Algerian popular heritage. Mr Berahri pointed out that the events in Tizi Ouzou, where foreign journalists have been barred, followed the visit to Paris of King Hassan II of Morocco--in dispute with Algeria over the Western Sahara problem--and his talks with French leaders. He accused the King of having foreknowledge of what would happen in Tizi Ouzou--which reports said had involved much of the general population in a general strike--when he said that the Sahara problem "was on the way to being settled."

Mr Berahri spoke in favour of dialogue on Algerian culture on democratic lines within the universities and existing institutions but he condemned "the minority of students trying to create instability in the country under the guise of Berber culture."

Calm Reportedly Returning

LD242052 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] Calm has been returning to Tizi Ouzou since yesterday afternoon after about 5 days of strikes and acts of sabotage. The town resumed its normal activity this morning. Several shops and businesses opened their doors despite the looting and destruction they suffered. Citizens rushed as usual to buy food and other commodities they need. Since yesterday evening, the civil security authorities, supported by a large number of citizens, have been clearing the streets of the town and removing roadblocks. The security authorities are now maintaining law and order.

Meanwhile, authorized circles in Algeria have expressed their surprise at the persistence of the French official information media in disseminating and broadcasting rumors about exaggerated events purported to have taken place in Tizi Ouzou and particularly about the deaths of victims.

Paris radio this morning repeated these allegations, completely ignoring the categorical denials issued by the Algerian authorities over 24 hours before.

LE MONDE Reports Algiers' 'Anxiety'

LD241135 Paris LE MONDE in French 24 Apr 80 pp 1,6

[Daniel Junqua dispatch: "Kabylie Still Isolated From Rest of Algeria After Tizi-Ouzou Riots"]

[Text] Algiers--Kabylie seems virtually completely isolated from the rest of Algeria and there is growing anxiety in the capital, where people are wondering about the situation in the region. It now seems difficult, if not impossible, to reach Tizi Ouzou by bus or train since traffic has been suspended or at least considerably reduced. Telephone links have been severed. Vehicles still moving Tuesday were carefully checked and the identity of the occupants noted at many roadblocks.

According to some travelers the road was even blocked beyond Thenia in the evening and automobiles were being diverted to Bouira. All these precautions and the complete silence being observed by the authorities give credence to the reports which have been circulating in university circles for the past 2 days alleging that police intervention against the students occupying the university on the night of Saturday/Sunday was extremely violent and caused many casualties. These reports have been firmly denied by the Information Ministry but rumors continue to circulate with increasing emphasis.

The fragmentary reports gathered now support each other on several points. In particular they confirm the violence of the clashes which took place at the Algerian company for the manufacture and installation of electrical and electronic equipment, where many people were injured, some seriously, in clashes between police and workers. The workers, who had proclaimed their solidarity with the striking students and teachers and backed their demand for recognition of the Berger language and cultural heritage, apparently staged a demonstration after the police occupied the Hasmaoua campus and the Oued-Aissi residence halls and launched a pitched battle against the police.

It also seems to be true that the doctors at the Tizi-Ouzou Hospital who had also expressed their support for the students and set up a "vigilance committee" with the rest of the staff have been apprehended and replaced by army doctors. A few dozen foreign students at Tizi-Ouzou University, including Africans, have been evacuated by the authorities, first to Tithzirt on the Kabylie coast and then to the Ben-Aknoun residence halls overlooking Algiers. The school run by the French Embassy, attended by the children of voluntary workers in Tizi-Ouzou, has been temporarily closed.

In Algiers the Atmosphere is still tense in most university centers and halls where numerous students' meetings and general teachers' meetings are being held. Several resolutions have been adopted at Algiers University "to demand clarification of the nature of the events which have taken place and what steps have been taken against those responsible." More general meetings were due to be held Wednesday [23 April]. At the central faculty in Algiers a demonstration-staged by a few hundred students was quickly dispersed by the police in the early afternoon. In almost all the capital's universities meetings have also been held at which students chanted slogans on Arabization and national unity. The various groups did not clash.

PDRY DEFENSE MINISTER ENDS VISIT TO ALGIERS

LD242256 Algiers Domestic Ser ice in Arabic 2000 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Excerpt] PDRY Defense Minister 'Ali Nasir Antar has left Houari Boumediene International Airport. During his visit to Algeria, Antar met with a number of Algerian officials and was received by Chadli Bendjedid. In a statement to the press, the PDRY minister said he had brought a verbal message from PDRY President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad to President Chadli Bendjedid dealing with the situation in the region.

JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AFTER TALKS WITH SIERRA LEONE

LD242236 Algiers APS in Arabic 1350 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] Algiers, 24 April--The Algeria-Sierra Leone official talks were concluded at the People's Palace yesterday. President Siaka Stevens has now left Algeria after a 4-day visit.

The joint communique which was released after this visit noted that the two presidents, Chadli Bendjedid and Siaka Stevens, held important talks which permitted them to learn about the economic, social and cultural development in the two countries, and to exchange views on deepening relations between Algeria and Sierra Leone and developing bilateral cooperation.

The two presidents took effective measures to promote relations between Algeria and Sierra Leone. They signed a cultural cooperation agreement and a scientific and technical cooperation agreement. The two agreements form a good basis to give an impetus to relations between the two countries. The two presidents decided to form a joint government committee on economic, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation which will meet once a year.

The two sides paid special attention to the situation in Africa. They denounced the maneuvers of imperialism and its agents which are aimed at creating areas of confrontation in order to maintain foreign domination over Africa and hinder the development of cooperation among African countries and to strike at the relations of solidarity which link these states in accordance with the principles and the aims of the OAU Charter. On reviewing the situation in South Africa, the two presidents hailed the proclamation of the Republic of Zimbabwe, as a culmination of the heroic struggle of the people of Zimbabwe under the leadership of the Patriotic Front. The two presidents renewed their support for the people of Zimbabwe and the efforts these people are making to strengthen their independence. They affirmed their two countries' solidarity with and support for the struggle of the nations of the African continent against imperialism, colonialism and racial discrimination.

Reviewing the issue of the Western Sahara, they expressed concern at the tension in the current situation in the area. They renewed their solidarity with the people of the Western Sahara in their struggle to exercise their inalienable right to self-determination and independence. In this connection, the two presidents recalled the pressing need to implement the resolutions and decisions of the UN organization and the OAU.

They expressed satisfaction with the final peace agreement signed between the Mauritanian Islamic Republic and the POLISARIO Front, as the agreement is an important contribution toward the dynamic of peace for a just and lasting settlement of the Western Sahara issue.

The two presidents also expressed their total support for the recommendations of the OAU special committee and for the urgent implementation of these recommendations.

The two presidents renewed their complete attachment to the achievements of the OAU and their commitment to making all efforts to strengthen the organization, regarded as the best instrument for consolidating and completing the political and economic independence of African states and for establishing peace and security and accord in the interests of a harmonious development of the continent in accordance with the aspiration of the African peoples to progress and prosperity.

In analyzing the current situation in the Middle East they expressed concern at the deterioration in the situation as a result of the signing of the Israeli-Egyptian agreements and the dangers these agreements pose to the freedom of the peoples of the area and to international peace and security.

They affirmed their conviction in the fact that there can never be a just and lasting solution unless the PLO takes an equal part, as the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and unless the basic rights of the Palestinian people to establish their own independent state are upheld, and unless withdrawal from all the occupied Arab area, including Jerusalem, is implemented.

The two presidents renewed their complete adherence to the principles and aims of nonalignment. They affirmed that the policy followed by this movement will remain more than at any time before an element that cannot be substituted for the liberation and advancement of the nations and for settling international issues and developing international cooperation on the basis of equality and safeguarding peace and security in the world, and for democracy in international relations and establishing a new international economic system.

The two presidents paid great attention to the issues of development and the reorganization of international economic relations. They also stressed the basic role which the developing nations must play in establishing a new method in relations begween the developing and the industrialised nations. In this connection, they affirmed their support for the resolutions adopted by the UN General Assembly on this problem and in the same framework the two presidents expressed satisfaction with the OAU resolution calling for the holding of an extraordinary summit conference devoted to economic issues and to the better coordination of efforts of the African states in the field of development.

LIBYA

PDRY DEFENSE MINISTER DELIVERS 'ALI NASIR MUHAMMAD NOTE

LD240100 Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution today received Col 'Ali Ahmad Nasir Antar, the PDRY Defense Minister. Antar informed him of the changes that have taken place in Yemen. Earlier, it was announced in Aden that brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il had resigned his position and that brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad had taken over the leadership of (?the party).

Brother 'Ali Ahmad Nasir Antar left Tripoli this evening after his brief visit to Libya during which he delivered a message from the new Yemeni leader, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, to the brother leader and during which he explained the new changes in the PDRY.

JALLUD RECEIVES MALTESE PRIME MINISTER

LD232034 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] Tripoli, 23 April, JANA--Staff Maj 'Abd as-Salam Jallud met this evening Dom Mintoff, prime minister of Malta, and the delegation accompanying him. The meeting held at the People's Palace in Tripoli, was attended by the brothers secretary of the General People's Committee and secretary of the External Liaison Bureau and the Maltese charge d'affaires.

MAURITANIA

LIBYAN DELEGATION ENDS VISIT; COMMUNIQUE ISSUED

AB231550 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1400 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Communique issued at the end of the visit of a Libyan delegation to Nouakchott on 22 April]

[Text] Mr Amr Ahmad al-Maqsi, Libyan acting minister of rural development and secretary of the General Popular Commission in Charge of Light Industry, paid a visit to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania from 17 to 22 April 1980 at the head of a large delegation and at the invitation of the Mauritanian minister of fisheries and maritime economy, Mr Soumare Oumar. The discussions between the two ministers, which took place in an atmosphere of fraternity and frank cooperation, centered on bilateral relations in the field of fisheries, maritime economy and rural development. The Libyan-Mauritanian Fishing Company held its second general meeting within the framework of this visit and the minutes of the meeting were signed by both parties. The meeting particularly emphasized the need for adequate ways and means to make the company more dynamic to enable it to fully play the role assigned to it. The two parties agreed that the company must be given vigorous impetus to enable it to perform its duties effectively and thus fulfill its objectives which constitute the main factors of the Mauritanian-Libyan cooperation in the field of maritime fisheries.

The two ministers stressed the need to (?strengthen) cooperation between the two brotherly countries in the field of fisheries [words indistinct] in the mutual interest of both countries. Concerning rural development, the two parties emphasized the importance of the Libyan-Mauritanian Agricultural Development Company and the need for it to rapidly achieve its objectives in the mutual interest of the two brotherly countries. Moreover, the Libyan light industry minister confirmed his government's agreement to participate in the financing of [word indistinct] with a contribution of $10 million. Concerning the other matters of common interest, the two parties found adequate solutions to the problems examined and, in order to further strengthen the good relations between their countries, decided to meet again after the month of Ramadan in the year 1400 of the Hegira.

The two ministers expressed satisfaction about the fruitful results achieved by their meeting. The two ministers emphasized the importance of cooperation and contacts between Arab and African countries as well as the need to consolidate and develop this cooperation in the mutual interest of the Arab and African peoples.

The Libyan delegation expressed its sincere gratitude to the Mauritanian delegation for the warm reception accorded it throughout its stay in the Islamic Republic of Mauritania. [words indistinct]

MOROCCO

CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES COMMITTEE HITS STEADFASTNESS FRONT STATEMENT

LD241518 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] The Chamber of Deputies Committee for Foreign Affairs, Cooperation, Frontiers, Occupied Areas and National Defense held a series of meetings on Wednesday, 16 April 1980, following the reports from Tripoli about recognition of the so-called and alleged Saharan Republic by the Front for Steadfastness and Confrontation. These meetings were devoted to studying the grave situation which might arise from this kind of irresponsible decision whether with regard to the unity of Arab ranks at this critical period when the principal Arab issue--the Palestinian question--is experiencing conspiracies from within and without, or with regard to the situations in the Arab Maghreb region in particular.

After studying the circumstances surrounding the statement issued by the so-called Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation and after hearing the report submitted to the committee by the minister of state for foreign affairs on the subject, the committee considers that the Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation has deviated from the goals of the Arab nation aimed at unifying the Arab ranks for supporting the Palestinian revolution and liberation of the Arab territories usurped by the Zionists who rendered their inhabitants homeless.

Thus the states dominating the so-called Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation have transformed its aim. They are casting doubt on the word of the Arab nation, creating artificial entities and are beginning to interfere in the internal affairs of other Arab countries.

Secondly, [as heard] the committee also notes that at a time when the states of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front continue escalating their demands over the question of Palestine, the statements issued at the Tripoli meeting will only lead to hindering the liberation of holy Jerusalem and the usurped Arab territories. They are chiefly aimed at bringing the Arab Maghreb out of the fateful battle of the Arab nation and preoccupying it with a war imposed on it by Algeria and Libya. This is considered to be one of the continuous conspiracies against the Arab nation and an extension of the Camp David plot.

Thirdly, the committee puts on record the attempt by the states dominating the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front to involve the Palestine Liberation Organization [PLO] in bilateral Arab disputes which have no relation to the noble principles of the Arab nation. The committee also notes the attempts to exert pressure on the Syrian Government and people to divert them from direct confrontation with the Zionist enemy. Accordingly, the Chamber of Deputies Committee for Foreign Affairs, Cooperation, Frontiers, Occupied Areas and National Defense:

1--Condemns in the name of the entire Moroccan people the declaration adopted by the Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation as a means for recognizing an alleged Saharan Republic which does not exist, except in the imagination of those who dream about it, and considers it a declaration that does not serve the Arab cause at all and does not meet the aspirations of the Arab people and the Islamic nation. Moreover, it harms the Moroccan people in their main issue and their territorial integrity.

2--The committee affirms that the Moroccan people, in spite of their disappointment, will continue to back and support the Palestinian people until all the occupied Arab territories are liberated.

3--The committee puts on record the statement made by the Palestinian envoy, Salim Za'mun--Abu Adib--with regard to the lie attributed to the organization, its nonrecognition of the alleged Saharan Republic, and its assertion of the bilateral nature of the Moroccan-Algerian dispute over the Moroccan Sahara.

4--The committee underlines the decision taken by the government regarding breaking diplomatic relations with both Libya and Cuba and calls on the government to take all the necessary measures with regard to the Syrian stand on the question of our territorial integrity.

5--The committee affirms the steadfastness of the Moroccan people and their adherence to their territorial integrity and its defense to the end. They are constantly prepared to confront all kinds of plots regardless of their source, under the leadership of the pioneer of the Moroccan nation, the realizer of its territorial integrity and its protector, His Majesty King Hasan II.

TUNISIA

TUNIS RADIO REPORTS COMPOSITION OF NEW CABINET

LD241326 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] Here are the names of members of the new Tunisian cabinet as announced by Minister of Information and Culture Fouad Mbazaa:

Prime Minister	Mohamed Mzali
Special Adviser to the President	Habib Bourguiba
Minister of Justice	Mohamed Chaker
Minister of Foreign Affairs	Hassen Belkhodja
Minister of Interior	Driss Guiga
Minister of National Defence	Slaheddine Baly
Minister of Planning and Finance	Mansour Moalla
Minister of National Economy	Abdelaziz Lasram
Minister of Equipment and Housing	Mohamed Sayah
Minister of Information and Cultural Affairs	Fouad Mbazaa
Minister of National Education	Mohamed Fredj Chedli
Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research	Abdelaziz Ben Dhia
Minister of Agriculture	Lassad Ben Osman
Minister of Public Health	Rachid Sfar
Minister of Transport and Communications	Sadok Ben Djemaa
Minister of Social Affairs	Mohamed Naceur
Minister of Youth and Sports	Hedi Zghal
Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Director of the Party	Mongi Kooli
Minister at the Prime Minister's Office in Charge of Civil Service and Administrative Reform	Moncef Bel Hadj Amor
Secretary of State at the Minister of Transport and Communications Office in Charge of PTT	Brahim Khaouja

New Prime Ministerial Aide

LD241543 Tunis TAP in French 1315 GMT 24 Apr 80 LD

[Text] Mr. Mazri Chekir was appointed on Wednesday director of the Office of the new Prime Minister Mr Mohamed Mzali. A former (province) governor, aged 47, Mr Chakir has held various posts in the Tunisian administration, the latest of which was as chairman of the Tunisian board for family planning and population.

WESTERN SAHARA

FOREIGN MINISTER: GOVERNMENT TO APPLY FOR OAU MEMBERSHIP

AB2410351 Paris AFP in French 1404 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] Lagos 23 Apr (AFP)--The Saharan Democratic Arab Republic, SDAR, intends to apply for OAU membership during the next annual summit meeting of the pan-African organization which is scheduled for next July in Sierra Leone, Mr Ibrahim Hakim, the SDAR foreign minister disclosed to AFP Wednesday. Heading the POLISARIO Front delegation in Lagos, which is hosting the preparatory conference of the first OAU economic summit, Mr Hakim said he was convinced that the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic will be accorded membership. However, the SDAR has to be recognized by a majority of member nations of the organization which currently includes 50 states.

We are sure that we will become a member of the OAU and we are convinced of the failure of the various missions Morocco is sending throughout Africa stating that she will withdraw from the organization if the SDAR is accorded membership. Morocco formerly used the same blackmail when the issue of the admission of Mauritania was raised, he added.

According to Mr Hakim, 22 African states have so far recognized the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic, including Sierra Leone. The figure should increase to 26 in the very near future. We should note that Morocco is more and more isolated in Africa because she is overtly in rebellion against OAU decisions, he affirmed. Mr Hakim also recalled the recognition of the SDAR by Cuba, Iran and the Arab countries of the hardline front. As for Morocco, she recently severed diplomatic relations with Cuba and Libya.

As an African people, we have judged that this economic rendezvous of Africa is also ours, Mr Hakim indicated, when explaining the reasons of the presence of the POLISARIO Front in Nigeria. We are a producer of phosphate, an important product. Therefore, we should have a say in determining African policy on phosphate, he said.

We think that politics and economics are linked and the issue of Western Sahara will definitely draw the attention of the heads of states, in one way or another, because it is one of the burning issues in Africa. In addition, the occupation of one part of the Saharan territory by the Moroccan forces of aggression paves the way for the looting of the riches of that country which are also the riches of Africa, Mr Hakim indicated. Mr Hakim in particular accused Morocco of being in the pay of an international conspiracy aimed at emptying the continent of its raw materials and allowing the looting of the Saharan coasts by Moroccan and Spanish boats.

Mr Hakim also stated that the POLISARIO would not allow Morocco to exploit the phosphates of Western Sahara. This exploitation will be undertaken only after our total independence, he underlined.

Lastly, Mr Hakim affirmed that Morocco is sinking and that the POLISARIO will continue to occupy southern Morocco as long as the Saharan towns will not be returned to their original populations, and he qualified the Mauritanian position as ambiguous. The Mauritanians failed to face their responsibilities and this has brought them profound and serious problems, Mr Hakim concluded.

REACTION TO U.S. RESCUE ATTEMPT IN IRAN

'No Connection' With Operation

TA250909 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 25 Apr 80

[Text] Our correspondent has learned from the prime minister's office in Jerusalem that Israel had no connection with the U.S. rescue operation in Iran. The Israeli Government has learned of the operation only from the reports about its failure in the communications media.

Shamir Cables Vance

TA250941 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0915 GMT 25 Apr 80

[Text] Let us now hear the reaction of Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. Foreign Minister Shamir sent a telegram to U.S. Secretary of State Vance in which he expresses Israel's condolences to the United States for the loss of lives in the attempt to rescue the hostages in Tehran. Foreign Minister Shamir asked the secretary of state to pass his condolences to the bereaved families. He expressed the hope that despite the tragic failure, the hostages will finally be released and an end will be put to the suffering of the hostages' families.

Begin Comment

TA251159 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1146 GMT 25 Apr 80

[Text] Let us go over to the prime minister's office after Prime Minister Menahem Begin and Foreign Minister Shamir met with U.S. Representative Richard Brown [as heard] an hour ago. They discussed the failure of the U.S. action in Iran. Following the meeting our correspondent Arye Golan spoke with the prime minister. [begin recording]

[Question] Did Israel know about the action that was about to be taken?

[Answer] From the outset.

[Question] From the outset?

[Answer] (?It can be assumed.) [words indistinct]

[Question] What is your reaction?

[Answer] The mishap is to be regretted. Loss of life was caused. We have expressed our regret to the U.S. charge d'affaires.

[Question] Will the status of the United States in the world be harmed now?

[Answer] I don't think I can answer that question. I hope not. After all they made an attempt to rescue their hostages. There was a mishap. This can happen to anyone. From a human point of view we should participate in the grief of the U.S. President and the U.S. people. [end recording]

CORRESPONDENT CONTACTS IRANIANS IN U.S. EMBASSY

TA251218 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 25 Apr 80

[Excerpt] Israel Radio reporter Dan Eshel made contact by telephone with the militants occupying the U.S. Embassy in Tehran. He says they told him that they knew nothing of the U.S. action but that they expected to have a statement later.

BEGIN ON EUROPEAN RESOLUTION, WASHINGTON TALKS, OTHER ISSUES

TA250840 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 25 Apr 80 pp 1, 2

[Prime Minister Menahem Begin interview with Arye Tzimuqi, time and place not given]

[Text] Question: What is your reaction to the decision by the Council of Europe calling for changes in Resolution 242 and for recognition of the Palestinians' right to self-determination?

Answer: There is no doubt that this is a very regrettable decision. We are talking about what is called the European initiative. It comes, first of all, from the president of France, and also from the British foreign minister. Germany also supports this initiative. That is: the president of France, when he was in Kuwait, announced recognition of the murderers' organization called the PLO and what is called the right to self-determination..

As for the first matter, there is nothing graver than this, since the European nations know what happened to our people. Those who recognize this organization of murderers are, in effect, recognizing plans for the destruction of Israel, since that same organization of murderers continues to adhere to the Palestinian Charter, almost every clause of which is aimed at the destruction of the state of Israel. How can the European nations lend a hand to such an organization, or to such a charter? Really, it is difficult to understand. However, we have gone through graver dangers in the past, including the threat of the imposition of sanctions on Israel by the United States in 1956-1957. We will also overcome these dangers, but we are definitely playing attention to them.

The same thing applies to the term "self-determination". These are beautiful words. When President Wilson spoke about the right to self-determination, he was not using fine words. He had serious intentions, and many nations have used this term in full seriousness, but a time came when this slogan was used badly. During the 1930's that same destroyer who shouted that Germany was entitled to self-determination in Czechoslovakia, in the Sudentenland, used that term; and many people in the West were very impressed by this claim. I think that the analogy is perfect. The reference is to a blackmailing aggressor with great power. They [the European countries] want to please the rejectionist countries and the oil owners, and so they tell them: "We do not hesitate to support an element that declares that it wants to destroy the Jewish state where all the sacrifices of the holocaust have gathered together."

Because of this, I regard the decision by the Council of Europe as a negative and grave phenomenon, but we must preserve the inner realization that it is our just cause that will stand by us, and we will stand up to this test as well.

Question: I would like to draw your attention to the fact that, in contrast to the dozens of PLO members who were in Strasbourg for this debate, we, for our part, had only one Knesset member there. Does this not seem to be an absence of sufficient awareness on our side?

Answer: I will have to examine this. I will only be able to reply to this after I have contacted the Foreign Ministry.

Question: You have just returned from talks in Washington. How much understanding did you discover on the part of President Carter for the substantive issues that you talked about? What are the differences of opinion with him? Are you satisfied with the talks?

Answer: After President as-Sadat's visit to Washington and his talks with President Carter many people said that, in fact, there was already an agreement. I even read a headline in two or three papers that there was a secret agreement between President Carter and President as-Sadat and that when we the Israelis came we would face very severe U.S. pressure to accept the Egyptian-U.S. agreement. I want to say that all these statements did not come true. With regard to the tone, there was no pressure, nor was there any confrontation. Naturally, each one expressed his views, and our opinions were not always identical.

Thus, for example, we had an argument in the White House meeting room, which lasted for nearly 2 hours, about Jerusalem. It is true that President as-Sadat said in public, and repeated in my presence, that Jerusalem should not be partitioned, that Jerusalem should remain undivided and that there should be free approach to the places sacred to all the faiths. At a dinner held in honor of the Israeli delegation, President Carter said it had been proved that when he and I agree on something it was for the benefit of both of us.

When I got up to speak at the dinner, I began by saying: The President said that when both of us agree, then both of us benefit. I want to say right now: I agree with the President. Jerusalem should not be repartitioned. There must be free approach for people of all faiths to the places sacred to them. That is exactly the situation now. But if President as-Sadat, with whom we signed a peace treaty, goes to the National [Press] Club in Washington and says, in his speech, that there must be Arab sovereignty over East Jerusalem, how can one speak about an unpartitioned Jerusalem? If there was Israeli sovereignty over a part of Jerusalem and Arab sovereignty over another part, then this is the partition of our capital city. This partition simply cannot be considered, from the viewpoint of the whole Jewish people.

There was a U.S. proposal that the Arab inhabitants of Jerusalem should be permitted to vote for the autonomy institution. According to Camp David, the autonomy is intended for the Arab inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip. When we are told that Jerusalem is not to be partitioned, how can there be two authorities? We regard this as partitioning Jerusalem. The argument over the matter of Jerusalem was very lively. We firmly insisted on the fact that there would not be two sovereignties, nor would there be two authorities. It is obvious that we were able to rely on the Camp David agreement.

It is true that Jerusalem was partitioned for 19 years, and we saw the results. We could not go to the western wall to pray. All our synagogues were destroyed. The cemetary on the Mount of Olives was not only destroyed, it was also desecrated. The Jewish Quarter was almost entirely destroyed. What did we find there? Ruins. We rebuilt all the places sacred to us. People of all faiths have free approach to the places sacred to them, and all of them confirm this. This is really the difference. We are maintaining exactly what the U.S. President said: Jerusalem will not be divided, and there will be free approach to the places sacred to all the faiths. This is the situation exactly, and we will also maintain it in the future.

At the last meeting President Carter had a week ago with the minister of the interior, the foreign minister and myself, we announced that Jerusalem is one city, not to be divided, either into authorities or two sovereignties. President Carter took note of our announcement. I think that if, one day, Jews read what was said at the meeting, they will have no reason to be ashamed of what their representatives said.

There were other deliberations. For example, we wanted it to be clear to everyone that we will be responsible for security in Judaea and Samaria. If this is not accepted as a principle, then it is clear that, with the removal of the military government and the election of the autonomy administrative council, a vacuum will be created in security. The PLO murderers' organization will, of course, fill this vacuum. I have some very enlightening figures. Last year alone we discovered 138 cells of that murderers' organization before they managed to murder men, women and children. Now let us imagine that we did not bear the responsibility for security and that organization of murderers filled the vacuum. This would no longer be peace; it would be a constant bloodshed, much worse and much more frequent than in Lebanon. Then, of course, we would have to react, and in the end this could lead to war. That has already happened several times.

We also discussed this issue at great length. We also spoke about the nature of the autonomy. I have now read remarks published in the name of President as-Sadat in a French-language Egyptian paper. Among other things, it says there that he is not insisting on an autonomy that would also be able to legislate, judge and implement. Mr Linowitz told us that the Egyptians were not insisting on their letter; and we told him that we would like to hear this from the Egyptians. I just read a cable reporting that As-Sadat said in public: "To legislate, judge and implement." I say that this is a Palestinian state in every sense of the word. If there is legislation, implementation and judgement, the Palestinian state will be a fact, even without the label of state. We are playing with labels and illusions.

This is a question of our lives, not the lives of the Egyptian people or that of the U.S. nation, or that of the European nations. Therefore, we also presented this problem in all firmness and seriousness: autonomy, fine; an administrative council, let them elect it for themselves. But we must keep security for ourselves, otherwise there will be no peace.

Question: You arrived in Washington with the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan still continuing and with the U.S. hostages still held in Tehran. Do you think the Americans have learned lessons from these events? What would you say about the lessons the Western world should learn, and what could Israel's contribution be to the new strategic deployment developing against this background?

Answer: I have surely addressed myself to this issue, both at my own initiative and in answer to questions. In my speech at the dinner given in my honor, I talked of the invasion of Afghanistan and the so-called Khomeyni revolution. On the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan I could say that was one of the gravest events since World War II. It is sometimes compared to the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia in August 1968. There is some mistake here, however, because Afghanistan's situation is different. It was not part of the Soviet circle but a neighbor of the Soviet Union like Iran. Recent reports indicate there are already 150,000 Soviet soldiers in Afghanistan with thousands of tanks, artillery units and very modern equipment. The Americans view this as a great danger, and it is impossible to say they ignore this danger. Regarding Iran--the Americans are humiliated. This great nation with the enormous power at its disposal feels humiliated and cannot figure its way out. It resorts to the advice of others, particulary the Israelis due to the Entebbe operation. We, however, say there is a difference between Entebbe and Tehran. We could be successful in the rescue operation in Entebbe since it was an isolated airport. We knew all the details, took advantage of the element of surprise, took control, put all people on the planes and returned home. The situation in Tehran is different.

I talked with the ruler of a certain state who said: "The Americans are liable to forget they have lost 55,000 people in Vietnam. He hinted that only 50 hostages are in question here. I had to explain to him that these are helpless hostages, and any kind of planning has to aim at rescuing them and not lead to their death. I have also been asked what would the Russians have done in such a case. I answered that if this happened in the Soviet Embassy the Soviets would have marched on Tehran regardless of the fate of the hostages. They would have also conquered Tehran, since Khomeyni's army cannot withstand any regular army.

I have noticed that the Americans are starting to lose their patience. They have not worked out a plan yet. They have many hesitations, and it is possible to understand them from the human point of view. They are also trying to get help from their allies, but these allies are doubtful and hesitant, especially Europe. Some of the Europeans are behaving ungratefully. After all, America saved Europe from a total economic slump after World War II and now, when America is in trouble, they are hesitating. All this is due to oil that can be discovered in other places as well. This materialistic policy of some of the European countries may come back at the Europeans as well. The Americans are very concerned about the international situation and feel very humiliated about events in Tehran.

Question: In the framework of a strategic deployment, did you talk with President Carter about our readiness to extend our aid, be it in services, bases or a defense pact?

Answer: I had personal talks with President Carter, and I am surely not prepared to discuss them publicly. Regarding an Israeli-U.S. defense pact, the government has never decided on this. I can only say that if the Americans had appealed to us, I would have recommended that the government approve this initiative.

Question: There is a feeling that while the government reveals great readiness in realizing the normalization of relations with Egypt, Egypt is slowing down its steps on this issue. You expressed readiness to appear before the Egyptian Parliament and have even agreed to favorably consider the possibility of As-Sadat's second appearance in the Knesset afterward.

Answer: What can one do? I did not raise the matter of appearing before the Egyptian Parliament at all. When President as-Sadat visited Jerusalem he told me openly: "I promise you, you will appear in the Egyptian Parliament, but the time is not ripe for this yet. Please, understand me." I did and have no complaints. The invitation to speak before the Egyptian Parliament is still open. If I am invited, as As-Sadat promised, to speak before the Egyptian Parliament, I will go. If an invitation is received, I will travel. If no invitation is received, I will sit at home. Thank God we have a house to sit in and we have a country of our own.

Question: On 17 May it will be 3 years since the Knesset elections that brought about the political revolution in Israel. How would you sum up this period, its achievements, its deficiencies, its blunders and its shortages?

Answer: Since we received the people's trust to form the government, the most important achievement has undoubtedly been the peace treaty with Egypt. If we talk honestly then this is a turning point in the history of the State of Israel. We have ended the state of war for the first time. There are practical results as well. Our ships sail in the Suez Canal, not only merchant ships but also warships, as specified in the 1888 Geneva charter, which was a mere piece of paper for Israel for 31 years.

We have made many sacrifices for this peace. However, it was clear to us that if we want to break the wall of hostility and make peace with the biggest and strongest Arab state, we have no choice but to make sacrifices. Otherwise wars on all fronts would have continued for an unlimited period of time.

There is still the eastern-northern front, which is very dangerous of course, but I do not think we can say that war on this front is near.

We want peace with all our neighbors. The people of Israel is tired of wars and persecutions. We want to live in Eretz Yisra'el as a free people, in peace, without wars. I am saying this unhesitatingly. Some doubted whether I could adhere to such views, since I was an underground fighter once, but I have always hated war.

We are now conducting negotiations over the autonomy plan. I think this is a vital idea. It is not true that a Palestinian state will or must evolve out of this. On the contrary, this should cope with the possibility of a Palestinian state.

Free high school education has been one of the important achievements in the social sphere, I think. Without high school education, at least, it is difficult for one to get on in life.

I think we have made fine progress in the area of housing. It is a fact that in 1979-80 according to the figures I have received from the housing minister, we have achieved a total of 42,000 building starts. In addition you have the program for rehabilitating the poor neighborhoods, project renewal, which has been received with great enthusiasm by Jews from the diaspora.

Question: While you were at the Washington talks, defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman appeared on the Moqed program and spoke about early elections and criticized the government. You have certainly read the full text of what was said. What is your reaction?

Answer: I was asked about this for the first time when I was in the United States. The question was put to me before I had read what had been said. Now I know what the defense minister said on Moqed, but he is in the United States. Because of this I asked the friends who appealed to me to postpone the debate until his return. I told them: If you want a debate in the faction or in any party institution about the defense minister's appearance on Moqed, he must be permitted to participate. If he is invited, is in the same country and agrees to come, that is his affair. But, as long as he is not, there is nothing to be done. We will wait patiently and meet for a discussion when the defense minister is here.

Question: We have heard criticism of Shim'on Peres' trip for talks with President Carter in Washington, and particularly of the way the meeting was arranged. What is your opinion about this? How would you have acted if you had been the leader of the opposition?

Answer: I will tell you how I did behave. Once I went to the United States, and I wanted to meet with Secretary of State Dr Kissinger. I called the then prime minister, Mr Yitzhaq Rabin, and asked him to instruct our ambassador in the United States to arrange that meeting. If he had told me that he did not agree, I would not have asked. Everything was in order. Our ambassador in the United States accompanied me and noted what was said. He gave the prime minister, and certainly also the foreign minister, a report.

The leader of the opposition is certainly entitled to see another head of state in a friendly way. I have no hesitations on this matter. But, he should have informed the foreign minister, or me, or both of us of this.

In any event, the government should have known, and we did not know. Minister Shamir asked our ambassador whether there was any basis for the rumors that he had dealt with that meeting and the ambassador replied: "Under no circumstances!" So, I see nothing wrong in the fact that President Carter invited Mr Peres for an interview; and I see nothing wrong in the fact that Mr Peres accepted that invitation. What was faulty here was only the communications with the government. It is not important with whom.

Question: For the first 2 years you very often exchanged letters with many heads of state. It seems to me that there has been less of this recently.

Answer: No, that impression is quite wrong. I recently received five or six letters from President Carter. Mrs Carter, the President's mother, also brought me a special letter to mark independence day. I received a very moving letter from him after the Misgav 'Am affair; and I also had two announcements from him by telephone, in connection with the meeting we had in Washington.

I have just received a most friendly letter from the new prime minister of Canada. We have always spoken man-to-man, calling each other by our first names, and this is also how he wrote to me this time. Last year we also exchanged greetings with President Ceaucescu and many other heads of state.

Question: Do you feel that this government will continue its term?

Answer: I want to explain once more. I cannot dissolve the Knesset as is customary in Britain, nor can the government or the president of the state. Who can dissolve our Knesset and declare early elections--only the Knesset itself. A law is necessary for this, and this law must be upheld by an absolute majority of 61 votes. Anybody who so desires can submit a draft resolution. If 61 votes are collected, a new date will be set for elections and elections will be held. What is the point of holding demonstrations?

Today, at every opportunity, the word "now" is used--"Peace Now," "elections now"--on no account to be confused with "Jerusalem Now"--everything now. Well then, I say: Law now! If you want to dissolve the Knesset and hold new elections, then submit a law now.

Question: What about the rumors about Husayn's contacts with As-Sadat and others about joining the autonomy talks?

Answer: We did not hear a thing. We have only heard of Husayn's total rejection made clear to both the Americans and other elements. We have not had a dialog with Husayn, and if anyone says he assumes Husayn is joining, this is in contrast to the facts known to us. He completely refuses to hear of this.

Question: Are you aware of the criticism leveled at the government, especially in the social-economic sphere? Are you aware of recent public opinion polls?

Answer: I read all the public opinion polls. Up to the previous elections about 3 years ago, all polls had predicted that the Alignment would form the government losing only a small number of seats. Only the last poll, the poll released 3 or 4 days before the elections, had predicted our victory. Nobody believed this, and ever since different kinds of polls have been conducted. The large majority of them has not come true at all. I have recently even heard that one of the pollsters himself said that he is confused and does not know what to do about public opinion polls. When the time comes, the people will elect whoever they want to elect.

Concerning the economic sphere, there are undoubtedly things that make life harder for the public. However, as both the former and present foreign ministers have said, we have spent more than we earned. If we want the economy to recover we must adopt graver measures. I do not think that a different ministerial team could have acted differently.

Regarding the settlements, this is the first time that President Carter and Vice President Mondale have officially stated Jews have the right to live anywhere in Eretz Yisra'el, including Judaea and Samaria. When I visited President Carter, I told him: "You have announced we have a right to live throughout Eretz Yisra'el. I have never doubted that, but I would like you to understand that for 100 years, ever since the Zionist dream was realized, we settle in groups. We cannot do this as individuals for reasons of self-defense. Settling in groups is called settlement. It is clear we have disagreements with the U.S. President and Vice President. This does not change the situation, though.

I would like to sum up and say that settlement is very vital in my opinion. It is a fact that many settlements have been set up in Judaea and Samaria, and this is absolutely necessary for the security of the nation. This is an unquestioned right.

PERES COMMENTS ON MEETING WITH CARTER

TA241602 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] The meeting between Labor Party Chairman MK Shim'on Peres and U.S. President Jimmy Carter ended in the White House a few minutes ago. At the end of the meeting MK Peres talked to journalists, including Rafi Man, who is now on the telephone from the White House. Over to you, Rafi:

Well, Mr Peres spoke with President Carter for over half an hour. They held a private meeting while Vice President Walter Mondale, Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and Israeli Ambassador Efrayim 'Evron waited in an adjacent room.

Jimmy Carter told Peres that he felt as an Israeli on four issues: on his opposition to negotiations with the PLO, on his opposition to the establishment of an independent Palestinian state, on the need for a unified and undivided Jerusalem and on the adherence to the Camp David accords. Let us hear further remarks by Mr Peres at the end of the meeting. [begin recording]

[Peres] Carter wanted very much to know the Labor Party's positions regarding all these issues. He told me that he had read my article in FOREIGN AFFAIRS and he asked me some questions pertaining to that article.

[Man] Did you discuss issues related to Israel's internal politics?

[Answer] No, that was not the subject of our talk. He also told me that the United States would not interfere with the internal affairs of Israel, just as he assumed that Israel would not interfere in what is happening in U.S. politics. [end recording]

[Man] Well, these were the remarks made by Mr Peres at the end of the disputed meeting with President Carter. Mr Peres left from here for a meeting with Secretary of State Cyrus Vance. Later, he will meet with the U.S. ambassador to the autonomy talks, Sol Linowitz. From the White House, I return the broadcast to the evening newsreel studio.

ISRAELI SOURCES IN U.S. DENOUNCE UNSC RESOLUTION

TA242010 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Excerpt] Our Washington correspondent reports that Israeli sources expressed disappointment over the fact that the United States did not vote against the draft resolution [of the United Nations Security Council denouncing Israel's intervention in southern Lebanon] and preferred to abstain. Israeli sources in Washington said the decision adopted by the Security Council is unilateral and does not mention the PLO and the actions it perpetrated recently, like the Misgav 'Am incident.

POLITICAL CIRCLES REACT TO EUROPEAN COUNCIL DECISION

TA231935 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] Jerusalem political circles regard with great seriousness the decision [to amend UN Resolution 242] adopted by the European Council today. They pointed out that this was the first European institution to adopt self-determination for the Palestinians and to ignore the criminal acts in Misgav 'Am and the attempt to sabotage an El Al plane in Zurich. This is reported by our political correspondent Elimelekh Ram.

FOREIGN MINISTRY CONDEMNS EUROPEAN DECISION

TA241253 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] In reaction to the European Council decision, the Jerusalem Foreign Ministry spokesman stated that Israel views with extreme gravity the decision which is harmful to the peace process. The Foreign Ministry's announcement states that peace with Egypt was achieved on the basis of UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and any attempt to change them can only be interpreted as a desire to disrupt the peace process. The announcement expresses wonder at the European Council's decision which does not contain even the hint of a condemnation of the PLO's atrocious murders, such as those perpetrated in Misgav 'Am and the abortive attempt to blow up an El-Al plane carrying dozens of women and children.

EDUCATION MINISTER HAMMER LEAVES FOR EUROPE

TA240802 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 0730 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Excerpt] Ben-Gurion Airport, 24 April--Education Minister Zvulun Hammer left for Europe this morning on board an El-Al plane at the invitation of the heads of Jewish communities and education institutions in Switzerland, Italy and France. The minister will stay abroad for about 10 days.

HA'ARETZ: PALESTINIAN TERRORISTS AGAIN RECRUITING FOREIGNERS

TA241037 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 24 Apr 80 p 1

[Text] The terrorist organizations have recently been training two groups of foreigners in their camps in Lebanon, most of them Germans and French, with the aim of using them in murder and terror operations against Israeli targets similar to the attempt against the El-Al plane that was foiled at Zurich airport.

As has been reported over the last few months several of the terrorist organizations have been attempting to recruit foreigners from various marginal groups and to train them to carry out terror and murder operations against Israeli objectives. The most active organization in this field is that of George Habash, the "Popular Front".

However, it has been reported that other organizations, such as that of Ahmad Jibril, are also trying to set up links with foreigners. Fatah is also maintaining contacts with foreign elements, except that in this case the link is mainly in the fields of organization, aid and political ties.

It is reported that one of the groups is composed primarily of West Germans. The second is made up of young Frenchmen who were recruited from various places around the world. They are now training in Lebanon.

GAZA MUNICIPALITY CRITICIZES BEGIN'S DECLARATIONS, ISRAEL

TA241256 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] Today the Gaza municipality released an announcement condemning the prime minister's declarations following his talks in Washington and rejecting Israel's position regarding the Palestinian people and the idea of establishing autonomy in Gaza first. Our correspondent Bassam Ja'bar says that the announcement is worded sharply. Gaza circles say this is compatible with Gaza Mayor Rashad ash-Shawwa's tough views ever since he met with PLO leader 'Arafat and King Husayn some time ago.

W. BANK RESIDENTS ATTACK SOLDIERS WEARING CIVILIAN CLOTHES

TA221311 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 22 Apr 80

[Text] The soldiers who were attacked in the village of Dayr al-'Asal, on the southern slopes of the Hebron hills, were wearing civilian clothes and were driving a car with civilian plates. Our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari has learned that it is slowly emerging in the investigation that the villagers had attacked the IDF soldiers because they thought they were robbers, members of a gang that has been harassing the inhabitants of the Hebron hills for 18 months. But even after the soldiers told the villagers who they were, they continued to attack them with rocks. This afternoon, the curfew on the village was lifted.

W. BANK COMMITTEE IN CONFLICT WITH JORDAN, FATAH

TA221502 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 22 Apr 80

[Text] The National Guidance Committee of Judaea and Samaria is facing a struggle with the joint Jordanian-Fatah organization committee over the question of the extension of the terms in office of the mayors after their current terms have ended. The National Guidance Committee decided that they should remain in office in order to keep the positions of power, while the Fatah organization and Jordan want elections held in an attempt to replace the mayors who are not to their liking. The joint committee has informed several of the mayors that the extension of their terms in office is not legal, and, thus, aid from Jordan to these municipalities may be stopped. Several of those within the municipalities who are opposed to the National Guidance Committee may resign in order to embarrass the committee.

BEGIN MEETS STRIKING JEWISH W. BANK LOCAL COUNCIL HEADS

TA231406 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] The prime minister has urged the hunger strikers from the Judaea and Samaria settlements to stop their act but refrained from committing himself with respect to how or in what legal fashion the future of the settlements will be guaranteed.

At the meeting with the hunger strikers, Begin also said that the Cabinet is looking for a way to guarantee the development of the existing settlements and the establishment of new ones. However, he explained to the settlers that the Camp David accords do not make it possible to implement a far-reaching legislative change on Judaea and Samaria matters.

Our correspondent Arye Golan has learnedthat the conversation was held in a good atmosphere and that after it ended, the strikers asked to consult with their colleagues about whether or not to comply with the prime minister's request and end the hunger strike.

Hunger Strike Continues

TA231554 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] The heads of the regional councils in Judaea and Samaria, who had been striking to change the legal status of the settlements, decided to continue their strike and increase their efforts. This morning they met with the prime minister who called on them to stop the strike. Our correspondent Avraham Ben-Melekh reports that, according to the strikers, the prime minister did not offer them a practical proposal. Therefore, they see no reason to stop their strike. Our correspondent has learned that the council heads are now holding consultations with their settlements on methods to expand their struggle.

NRP CALLS ON GOVERNMENT TO CHANGE LEGAL STATUS OF SETTLEMENTS

TA231638 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Excerpt] Chairman of the Ministerial Committee on Autonomy Dr Yosef Burg said at a meeting of the NRP Executive this afternoon that, in his opinion, there was no Knesset majority for changing the legal status of the settlements in Judaea and Samaria. Our correspondent Rafi Reshef reports on the NRP Executive's meeting:

A compromise proposal regarding the legal status of the settlements in Judaea and Samaria was formulated before the beginning of the NRP Executive's meeting. The compromise proposal was supported by Ministers Burg, Hammer and even by Rabbi Druckman. The proposal stated that the government should take urgent action to legally arrange the question of land for the existing settlements and for new settlements which would be established according to the Cabinet's decision. The NRP's proposal calls on its ministers, the prime minister and the Cabinet to take such action as soon as possible and bring about a positive solution at the end of the debates. It should also be noted that the decision was a moderate one and did not include any ultimatums.

MILITARY GOVERNMENT APPROVES WEST BANK UNIONS

TA240935 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] The military government, after many hesitations, has authorized the establishment of the agricultural unions in Judaea and Samaria. The largest of them unionizes more than 40 villages in the Nabulus district. The establishment of the unions was initiated by Jordan as a counterweight to the municipalities under the control of the National Guidance Committee. In contrast to this, the military government is refusing to approve the establishment of the various types of housing associations, which are also under the influence of Jordan and Fatah. The military government fears that they want to take control of Judaean and Samarian land.

CONGO

JOINT CONGO-ALGERIAN COMMUNIQUE ISSUED FOLLOWING FLN VISIT

LD241521 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 15 Apr 80 pp 1, 3

[APS report: "The FLN and Congolese Labor Party Decide To Develop Cooperation and Solidarity Between the Two Parties"]

[Text] Algiers--An FLN delegation, led by Mr Mohamed Djeghaba, Central Committee member and FLN national commissioner, has completed a friendship visit to the People's Republic of the Congo from 7 through 11 April at the invitation of the Congolese Labor Party [PCT]. The seal was set on this visit by a joint communique.

During this visit the FLN delegation was received by Mr Denis Sassou-Nguesso, president of the PCT Central Committee, president of the republic, head of state and chairman of the Council of Ministers, to whom it conveyed a message of friendship from the Algerian people and from President Chadli Bendjedid, FLN secretary general.

The Algerian delegation was also received by several PCT Political Bureau members, including Jean Pierre Thysters Tchicaya, Political Bureau member in charge of the Department of Education and Ideology; Lekoundzou Itihi Ossetoumba, Political Bureau member in charge of the Department of Planning and Economy, Jean Michel Bokamba Yangouma, Political Bureau member in charge of the organizational department and secretary general of the Congolese Labor Union Confederation, and Pierre Nze, Political Bureau member, head of the Foreign Relations Department and minister of foreign affairs and cooperation.

During its stay the delegation had political talks with a PCT delegation led by Mr Charles Stanislas Batheas Mollomb, Central Committee member and head of the Political Affairs Division at the Foreign Relations Department.

These talks took place in an atmosphere of fraternal friendship and revolutionary frankness and enabled both parties to take stock of their bilateral relations and to examine the ways and means to develop and strengthen them further along the parth outlined by the immortal President Marien N'gouabi and the lamented activist Houari Boumediene, a path now ardently and firmly pursued by their worthy successors President Denis Sassou-Nguesso and Chadli Bendjedid.

The FLN delegation was told of the PCT's immense activity since its extraordinary third congress toward the concretization of the new development strategy which aims to free the Congo from foreign dependence and domination.

The PCT delegation was informed of the march of the Algerian revolution toward the building of a socialist society and on the various historic stages which have sanctified this irreversible option of the Algerian people and their vanguard party, the FLN.

After an in-depth study of interparty relations, the two delegations noted with satisfaction the quality of the relations between the FLN and PCT and decided to strengthen them with a view to consolidating further the friendship and solidarity between the Algerian and Congolese peoples.

To this end the two parties agreed on the need to develop and strengthen cooperation and the links of friendship and solidarity between the two parties and their mass organizations.

Concern At the Attacks on Peace and Security

On present international questions the two delegations expressed their concern at the present development of certain international problems which interfere with the peoples' freedom and their rights to dignity and progress and which thereby form a threat to international peace and security.

The FLN and the PCT reaffirm their active solidarity in the struggle against imperialism and its allies, and once more emphasize their loyalty to the principles of nonaligrment, noninterference in internal affairs, good neighborliness and the peaceful settling of conflicts.

The two delegations examined the Western Sahara problem with particular attention and expressed their active solidarity and their unreserved support for the Saharan people's heroic struggle for its independence under the leadership of the POLISARIO Front, their sole and authentic representative. They also reaffirm their total support for the great diplomatic successes gained by the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic.

On the situation in southern Africa the two parties warmly greet the coming of the independent Republic of Zimbabwe on 18 April and repeat their support for the fight of the peoples of Namibia and South Africa for the complete liberation of the continent from racism and apartheid.

Examining the Middle East situation, the two parties renew their firm condemnation of the Camp David accords and, again, assure the PLO of their indestructible support and of the right of the Palestinian people to build an independent state, and they demand the evacuation of all the occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem.

The Two Parties Denounce the Foreign Stranglehold on Africa

Examining the Latin American situation, the two delegations hail the victory of the Nicaraguan people under the Sandinist Front's leadership.

Proceeding next to a study of questions relating to development, the two delegations insisted on the reorganization of the whole economy and equitable foundations and agreed on the need to expend every effort in setting up a new economic order.

Moreover, they denounce all imperialist schemes which lead toward the creation of permanent zones of conflict with the aim of perpetuating the foreign stranglehold on Africa, of hindering the natural development of cooperation between African countries and of breaking the links of solidarity which unite them in keeping with the principles and ideals of the Organization of African Unity charter.

During its stay the FLN delegation was greeted at the Marien N'gouabi Museum where it laid a wreath on the tomb of the deceased president. Furthermore it visited the party's higher school and was able to assess the PCT's efforts in the sphere of the training of party cadres, and it met with the leadership of the Congolese Association for Friendship Between Peoples, with which it had very fruitful talks on the ways and means of strengthening and consolidating the links of friendship, fraternity and solidarity between the Algerian and Congolese peoples.

The FLN delegation expressed particular satisfaction at the PCT's progress in establishing the Congo's sovereignty in all spheres, especially in that of the building of an independent national economy, the only real guarantee of the victory of socialism in the People's Republic of the Congo.

The Congolese delegation valued highly the FLN's achievements in the political, economic, social and cultural spheres which are both gains for the strengthening of national independence and the affirmation of a socialist Algerian society, sanctified by the national charter and the resolutions of the FLN fourth congress.

The two delegations expressed their complete satisfaction the quality of their talks which were marked by friendship, frankness and mutual understanding, and above all by revolutionary warmth.

The FLN delegation expressed its keen gratitude to the Congolese people and its vanguard, the PCT, for the fraternal and militant reception accorded it during its stay in the People's Republic of the Congo, and it invited a PCT Central Committee delegation to visit the Algerian Democratic and Popular Republic.

This invitation was accepted; the date is to be settled later.

GABON

PRIME MINISTER RECEIVES CHADIAN FINANCE MINISTER

AB242225 Libreville Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] Prime Minister Leon Mebiame this morning received in audience the Chadian minister of finance, Mr Ahmat Mahamat Saleh. Mr Mahamat Saleh, who is also responsible for the foreign relations of Mr Hissein Havre's Northern Armed Forces, delivered a message from the Chadian defense minister, Mr Hissein Habre, to Prime Minister Leon Mebiame for transmission to President Omar Bongo. Mr Hissein Habre's special envoy was accompanied by the secretary general of the Ndjamena Chamber of Commerce, Mr (Saleh Atehe).

TANZANIAN PRESIDENT MAKES STOPOVER ON WAY TO LAGOS

AB242215 Libreville Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Excerpt] Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere today made a stopover at the Leon Mba international airport in Libreville on his way to Lagos, where he will attend the first economic summit conference of the OAU scheduled to take place on 28 and 29 April. He was welcomed by the president of the republic, his excellency Elhaj Omar Bongo, who was accompanied by Prime Minister Leon Mebiame, [words indistinct] Mr Jean-Stanislas Migolet, the public authorities, the grand chancellor of the national orders, members of the government, the Political Bureau, the Central Committee and the diplomatic corps, as well as high government officials present in the capital.

ZAIRE

MOBUTU ADDRESSES PARLIAMENTARY SESSION

AB242115 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1805 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] Kinshasa, 24 Apr (AZAP)--President Mobutu Sese Seko's address to the people's commissioners during today's session of Parliament concerned three main points. They are: the economic growth characterized by the bright prospects offered by the Mobutu plan, the collective responsibility for the education of the youth who are the country's future hope and the presidential call for a closer, and more constructive and more effective cooperation between the legislative council and the other state organizations.

Concerning the Mobutu plan of national recovery, Gen Mobutu Sese Seko, after examining the various stages of the negotiations with Zaire's various partners, explained why he sent a second letter to the International Monetary Fund concerning the need to reappraise certain elements contained in the initial stabilization plan. He indicated, in this connection, that during the first half of the month of May, the board of governors of the International Monetary Fund will finally approve the reappraised program for 1980 and will thus enable the effective execution by the various partners of their financial commitments to Zaire during the third Brussels conference. The president of the republic also indicated that the meeting of the consultative group of the World Bank will be held from 20 to 22 May this year to discuss Zaire's investment projects and announced that the state commissioner for finance and the governor of the Bank of Zaire are now in Paris to sign with the foreign partners the final agreement on the rescheduling of the debts Zaire owes them. The end of the tunnel is in sight, said the head of state who explained that all the conditions have now been fulfilled to make 1980 a year of sure and successful economic growth for Zaire.

Concerning the student problem, the head of state deplored the internal and external complicities which disturbed the calm atmosphere on the Kinshasa campus and within some institutions of higher learning in the capital. He said in this regard: I cannot understand and cannot tolerate that after having made sacrifices for a long time to relaunch our economy, regrettable incidents like those provoked by the students should come to interfere with the action of the Executive Council. He added that the objective of the students, who are being manipulated by internal and external enemies, is to hinder the normal implementation of the national recovery plan, instigate some of the people to oppose the institutions and compromise, if possible, the sovereign pontiff's forthcoming visit to Zaire. The head of state then mentioned his considerable personal efforts to defend the interests of the students and improve their living conditions and regretted that they have yielded to foreign advice. The university has been closed; this is the only measure befitting the gravity of the events, he said, adding that in the light of the recent events he would envisage radical measures concerning the conditions of access and study in the university and other institutions of higher learning. After giving examples of his many generosities, General Mobutu observed that the institutions of higher learning alone should not swallow up the public funds derived from the sweat of all the people.

He again talked about the great consideration he had for the legislative council to which he has always paid deep respect. The head of state said: On each occasion both inside and outside the country, I have always affirmed that I was proud of my Parliamentarians and that far from displeasing me, their action generally constitutes an appreciable contribution to my difficult task of managing the affairs of the state and directing an entire people.

If you make careful observations and analyses, you will note that your action influences mine in one way or another. In my position as the head of our society, I have in one way or another always taken your interpellations, Parliamentary inquiries, constituency reports and all your various observations into account. Thus, I shall always be the great defender of our country's Parliamentary freedoms, he added. Through your oral questions, your written questions, your interpellations and your Parliamentary inquiries, you are accomplishing your tasks with the same faith, the same revolutionary enthusiasm and the same rigorous analysis, while always counting on the total support of the head of state.

This flattering picture was later darkened by the shadow of certain parliamentarians who play into the hands of foreigners through the malicious statements they make about the national institutions and which they know to be false. On this occasion, the president made certain remarks called for by things that happen daily in Parliament and recommended increased judgment, frankness, honesty and dignity in the behavior of each of the people's commissioners. He urged them to continue their mission as legislators and controllers of the state organizations with the same vigilance and rigor and without any complacency.

Introducing the head of state, the speaker of the legislative council had, on behalf of all the members, expressed his gratitude for the head of state's kind concern for Parliament and said that the practice of democracy is being strengthened in the Republic of Zaire. Earlier in his speech, the head of state declared that in his 4 February address, he had said everything concerning the nation's present and future situation and that his meeting with the Parliamentarians was in accordance with a tradition established 3 years ago within the framework of the celebration of the Parliamentary day. He also congratulated the new speaker of the legislative council and his aides on their brilliant election and hoped that their mandate would be crowned with success.

[Words indistinct] The attention paid by all the deputies and the hearty cheers which greeted the end of the presidential address demonstrated the attachment, commitment and loyalty which the people's commissioners have always pledged to the man of 25 November 1965 [President Mobutu]. This ceremony was attended by all the public authorities.

STUDENTS EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR PRESIDENT MOBUTU

AB221233 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1638 GMT 21 Apr 80

[Text] Kinshasa, 20 Apr (AZAP)--The Zairian students of the National Institute of Education (IPN), have presented to the MPR founding president and president of the republic, citizen Mobutu Sese Seko, a motion of support in which they reaffirm their unflinching faith in the ideals of the party and their unreserved support for the country from economic stagnation, and especially for the Mobutu plan.

Here is the full text of this motion:

Citizen founding president of the Popular Movement of the Revolution, we, Zairian students of the National Institute of Education (IPN), conscious of our role of educating and training the youth on whom the hopes of the entire nation are based, and anxious for the general wellbeing of our citizens,

--Note, like all Zairians, that the country faces a serious general crisis, the causes of which, both internal and external, are well known.

--That this crisis, which is both moral and material, cannot be attributed to a single governing power, nor an individual but [words indistinct] each one of us insofar as we do not make an effort to completely get rid of bourgeois attitudes, laziness and the lack of political awareness.

--That we are to be blamed for this crisis once again because we refuse to turn resolutely toward productive work in order to overcome our difficulties and follow the line of progress, when we have vast potentials in all fields.

--That insufficient production of the most commonly consumed food crops and the inescapable increase in the prices of these in spite of the appeal of the state and the Executive Council's call for an agricultural revival can be considered one of the causes of the misfortunes that we denounce.

--That the insufficiency of the revenues anticipated by the Executive Council for continuing and sticking to its action program is mainly due to acts of Zairians themselves: merchants, industrialists, private people, agents of the state, and even students, who by various unpatriotic acts, (embezzlement, tax evasion, theft, etc...) make it impossible for the state to achieve its positive actions and stick to its commitments and promises.

--That we do not underestimate the responsibility of the Executive Council vis-a-vis this unfortunate situation consciously caused by certain custodians of power (members of the Executive Council and other senior cadres of the party) because it is said that the example comes from above.

--That many are the Zairians who do not feel linked with the problems of their country, thus showing a spirit of antinationalism, to these people, the state is people other than they. But when it comes to advantages of the state, they come first, and not others.

--That it will be better for us to recognize the danger in the situation in which we find ourselves. We stand behind the guide to:

1. Denounce all wrongdoers, our enemies both internal and external, and the antirevolutionaries, so that they will be punished and separated from the good society.

2. Turn toward an organized production of our numerous riches to make our nation prosperous and a place worth living.

Consequently, we, the students of the National Institute of Education, after objectively analyzing and examining the above:

1. Reaffirm our unflinching faith in the ideals of the party, the Popular Movement of the Revolution, as defined by and noted in the Nsele manifesto;

2. Support without reserve the founding president of the Popular Movement for the Revolution and president of the republic in his positive actions aimed at freeing the country from economic stagnation and especially the recovery plan that bears his name;

3. Support the Executive Council in its search for rapid ways and means of restoring the economy of the country through concrete actions, and the implementation of a just and firm policy in the general interest of the people;

4. Condemn without ambiguity acts of vandalism, banditry, cruelty, theft and violence which are incompatible with and contrary to the objectives of the revolution, that is, the forward march to progress;

5. Will never admit that either a Zairian student or other person places himself outside the society to establish or help establish a new individual or collective order defying the state authority and causing disorder in the name of freedom of the citizens;

6. Denounce publicly subversive maneuvers perpetrated by desperate and deceived riff-raff of politicians aimed at leading peaceful citizens into an uprising against the established institutions;

7. Ask our fellow citizens never to follow the few stray ones who are manipulated by some embittered and discontent politicians, chased away from the circuit of our revolution because of their (?greed and embezzlement of huge amounts of public funds).

OFFICIAL DEPARTS FOR LAGOS OAU CONFERENCE

AB232112 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1513 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] Kinshasa, 23 Apr (AZAP)--The commissioner of state for foreign affairs and international cooperation, citizen Nguza Karl-i-bond, left Kinshasa today for Lagos, in Nigeria, where he will take part in the activities of the economic conference of African states organized by the OAU. This conference, which will focus on the problems of the economic integration of African states--particularly by means of the development of commercial exchanges--follows up that held in Kinshasa in 1976, requested by Zaire.

GENERAL STAFF WARNS AGAINST SWINDLING BY ARMED FORCES

AB231236 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1125 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] Kinshasa, 22 Apr (AZAP)--The General Staff of the Zairian Armed Forces warns the public in general and Kinshasa businessmen in particular about certain measures to be taken against some cases of swindling that have tended to become common practice in the country.

A communique of the General Staff of the Zairian Armed Forces handed over to AZAP highlights the fact that in order to enforce discipline in the armed forces, officers, noncommissioned officers, senior corporals, soldiers, seamen, police constables and new enlisted men are not entitled to raise any donations or simply to appeal for funds on behalf of any charitable organization or any person. The Executive Council, through the Department of National Defense, is solely responsible for meeting the needs of the army in the material, social and cultural fields.

The communique adds that, therefore, no citizen and no military person can go to any organization, be it commercial, industrial, international or diplomatic, to ask for donations and collect funds in the name of the army. Anyone who acts that way should be considered a swindler and handed over to justice.

The General Staff of the Zairian Armed Forces, which appeals to the attention and prudence of everybody, therefore, denies all responsibility.

The communique concludes that the public should know that in the field of commerce, and in particularly orders for goods placed by the armed forces, it is highly advisable to inquire at the responsible office of the armed forces department to which the man belongs in order to be sure that he was really given authority by his officials, who can be:

--The Department of National Defense and Veterans
--The General Staff of the Zairian Armed Forces
--The staff of the Army
--The staff of the Zairian Air Force
--The staff of the Naval Forces
--The staff of the National Gendarmerie and the staff of the Logistics Corps.

LIBERIA

FORMER NATIONAL SECURITY MINISTER TESTIFIES AT TRIAL

AB241115 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 2100 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] After the execution of 13 former government officials of the ousted Tolbert regime, officials at the military tribunal resumed hearings today with the former minister of national security, Burleigh Holder, (speaking this time) to testify before the tribunal. He pleaded not guilty to the charges of treason, corruption, misuse of public office and to violations of the human and civil rights of the Liberian people. He said the charges laid against him were general without specificity of the time or act. When asked as to whether the Liberian democratic process had been functional, Mr Holder said, and I quote: I have not played an important role in policy making to influence the political process. He said the Liberian political process had not been monopolized, because according to him, the act of 1964 creating new **counties**, was geared at bringing more people into the activities of the state. Former National Security Minister Holder, who has also served as minister of national defense, said he has been in government service for 19 years now. He started as a (?cadet) at the Department of Trade, now the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Mr Holder said, between 1970 to 1971, he built a house costing $9,600. He said he borrowed the money from the International Trust Company to build the house. Between 1976 to 1977, Mr Holder said he borrowed about $20,000 to $25,000 to build another house costing about $42,000. Mr Holder said he had a bank account of about $500 at the Chase Manhattan Bank in New York. He also recalls having a savings account of about $4,500 and a second account of less than $500 at the Bank of Liberia in Monrovia. Mr Holder, who was married to a daughter of the late President Tolbert, also disclosed that he and his wife have a joint account of ($12,000) at the International Trust Company in Monrovia. Mr Holder also said he has 600 acres of undeveloped land in (Kwedor) district. Questioned on his role in the 15 April episode, Mr Holder said he never ordered military men to shoot citizens who were merely demonstrating. He said it was the late president who ordered a special armed unit to shoot demonstrators. He said he never advised the late President Tolbert to bring foreign troops into the country. He added that Guinean troops came in as a result of discussions that the late president had with a delegation from Guinea.

Mr Holder is a shareholder in the (?Grannhold) tissue factory of (Penhall). He said other shareholders are one (India Mills) and (Gulf Calliber). He said the government stopped the importation of toilet tissues, not merely to promote his business, but to protect local industries competing with advanced industries in foreign countries.

ALGERIA EXPRESSES DESIRE TO MAINTAIN, STRENGTHEN TIES

AB242140 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1755 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs has announced that the government of the Democratic Republic of Algeria has assured the People's Redemption Council of its desire to maintain and strengthen existing relations with Liberia.

According to a release from the Foreign Ministry, the Algerian ambassador today called on Minister G. Bacchus Matthews and told him that Algeria is committed to fight for the liberation of all Third World countries from underdevelopment and social injustice.

Algeria, he added, will honor all commitments for economic cooperation with Liberia that were made in the past. Foreign Minister Matthews expressed appreciation to the ambassador on behalf of the People's Redemption Council for his government's affirmation to continue and strengthen relations with Liberia and informed the ambassador that the people of Liberia welcome the participation of all friends in the efforts of the People's Redemption Council to create a new and better society for the people of Liberia in which there is social justice and equal opportunity for all.

ARMED FORCES COMMANDER VISITS SINOE COUNTY

AB241135 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 2100 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] The commanding general of the Armed Forces of Liberia, Brigadier General (Thomas K. Luffer), visited Sinoe County to acquaint himself with the problems of the county. Speaking to newsmen upon his return to Monrovia, the commanding general said he met the authorities and citizens of Sinoe, who expressed their willingness to cooperate with the People's Redemption Council in building a new Liberia, free from corruption, nepotism and injustice. Meanwhile, Col (Daniels Matthews), former comptroller of the Ministry of Defense, who was charged with corruption and detained by the ousted Tolbert government, has been released by commanding General (Herron). He was released immediately.

DOE ANNOUNCES RICE PRICES TO BE REDUCED

AB250735 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 2100 GMT 25 Apr 80

[Text] The head of state, Master Sergeant K. Doe, has assured the Liberian people that the price of rice and the cost of transportation will be reduced soon. The head of state said the People's Redemption Council was committed to improving the standard of living and alleviating the suffering of the Liberian people. He made the assurance today when thousands of jubilant citizens including market women and school children converged on the executive mansion grounds, singing, dancing and waving palm branches in support of the People's Redemption Council.

MALI

JUSTICE MINISTER RETURNS FROM ZIMBABWE CEREMONY

AB241542 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Excerpt] The minister of justice and keeper of the seals, Mr Boubakar Sidibe, returned home this morning from Arare, formerly Salisbury, where he represented the head of state at the Zimbabwe independence celebrations. Minister Boubakar Sidibe gives his impressions to (Sily Diawara).

[Begin Sidibe recording] I have come from Arare, formerly Salisbury, where I led the national delegation to the Zimbabwe celebrations. Let me recall that it was during the elections held on 27 to 29 February 1980 that the people of Zimbabwe gave more than 60 percent of their votes to the leader of ZANU, the co-leader of the Patriotic Front, Robert Mugabe, who is the current prime minister of the government of that country. One of the most moving moments of the ceremony for the British governor, Lord Soames, the white population and also the Zimbabwean population, was the replacement of the British flag by the Zimbabwean flag. This was followed by the searing-in ceremony for the president of the republic and the actual handing over to the new power of the legal instruments of the independence and sovereignty of Zimbabwe.

NIGERIA

ATHLETES TO COMPETE IN FIVE OLYMPIC EVENTS

AB241052 Paris AFP in English 1000 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] Lagos, 24 Apr (AFP)--Nigerian sportsmen and women will only compete in five events during the Moscow summer Olympics, the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) said today. The events are 100 meters, (men and women), 400 meters (men women), relays (men and women) and the 110 and 400 meters hurdles, also for men and women.

GOVERNMENT TO AID CHADIAN REFUGEES IN BORNU STATE

AB250730 Kaduna Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] The federal government is to spend about 3 million naira to purchase relief materials for the Chadian refugees now in Bornu State. This was disclosed in Maiduguri State by the chairman of the relief committee, (?Alhaji Satule Bako) [words indistinct].

TANZANIA'S NYERERE ARRIVES; HOLDS TALKS WITH SHAGARI

AB241656 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] Talks are being held in Lagos between Nigerian and Tanzanian leaders. The Nigerian side to the talks is being led by President Shehu Shagari while President Julius Nyerere is heading the Tanzanian delegation. Dr Nyerere arrived in the federal capital this afternoon in a stopover to Sierra Leone. He is expected to leave Lagos later today.

STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS HAVE SERIOUS POTENTIAL

AB241740 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] In an editorial headlined, "Anarchy at UST" [University of Science and Technology], the GHANAIAN TIMES says the current situation there is one that can develop into serious complications if it is not correct fast enough. It notes that the students on the other hand, decided to bypass their executives and take the law into their own hands, thus sapping [word indistinct] of their executive body. The paper observes that the students appear to have been convinced that there is a conspiracy by the university authorities to refuse a redress of students grievances generally. The anarchy, on the other hand, is on the part of the lecturers, says the TIMES. The lecturers for their part, decided to shortcut university practice by forcing their mind on the administration against the students instead of assuring the students that there was no conspiracy to ignore their grievances.

To settle the issue, the TIMES recommends that the university authorities should accept the apology of the students and call them back into residence.

COMMENTARY ON NIGERIA'S ROLE IN AFRICA

AB241010 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Station commentary]

[Text] As a matter of policy, every successive government in Nigeria since the attainment of independence in 1960, has declared its resentment to colonial domination and racism. At all international forums, particularly the United Nations, Nigeria supported all resolutions condemning these evils.

But as we know, they were invariably pious resolutions which were either never implemented nor respected, so it was that the apartheid regime in South Africa and the Portuguese colonial authorities in Angola and Mozambique continued their obnoxious policies in defiance of United Nations' resolutions. In 1975, there was a dramatic change in Nigeria's foreign policy. This country adopted a tougher attitude to the problems of southern Africa; it came out openly in support of the armed struggle to terminate colonial rule in Angola and Monambique. To give practical expression to that, Nigeria went to the OAU and championed the cause of the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] under the late Dr Agostinho Neto. The success of Nigeria's campaign was followed by the OAU's recognition of MPLA as the legitimate body representing the people of Angola. And when subversive elements attempted to unsettle the young government of Agostinho Neto, Nigeria gave her moral and material support to sustain that administration in consonance with the stands of the OAU. It was about this time also that Nigeria launched a southern Africa relief fund to aid those involved in the nationalist struggle in southern Africa. All sections of the Nigerian community enthusiastically contributed to the fund which attracted at least 20 million naira. A high powered committee was set up to administer the fund for the benefit of the oppressed people of southern Africa. Also in the struggle for the independence of Zambabwe, Nigeria applied a combination of diplomatic strategies to contribute to the birth of the new state under Mr Robert Mugabe. As the liberation war escalated, Nigeria kept in touch with the nationalist leaders on ways of giving further impetus to their campaign.

At the crucial Commonwealth conference in Lusaka, Zambia last year, Nigeria and other African member states of the Commonwealth put diplomatic pressure on Britain to assume her responsibility for guiding Zimbabwe for majority rule. Nigeria had to issue a warning that she would reconsider her membership in the Commonwealth if Britain failed to discharge that constitutional obligation. It is not only in the political and the diplomatic fields that we in Nigeria have been supporting our brothers and sisters in southern Africa. Several years now, this country has been financing a program for the training of African students from southern Africa. Some of them, who have already graduated from institutions of higher learning in Nigeria, are now holding important positions in their homes.

At the independence of Zimbabwe last week, President Shehu Shagari told a world news conference that Nigeria will continue to give total support for the complete liberation of Africa from the clutches of minority regimes and elimination of all the visages of colonialism on the continent. That is also the committment of all the other member states of the OAU. The remaining pockets of racism on the continent are in Namibia and South Africa. With the independence of Zimbabwe, African states will naturally focus attention on these two areas in order to hasten their disentaglement from the apparatus of the apartheid system. It is reassuring that Nigeria and the other African states are poised to bring this about sooner than later.

SENEGAL

MEASURES TO STRENGTHEN W. AFRICAN ECONOMY REVEALED

AB241355 Paris AFP in French 1123 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] Dakar, 24 Apr (AFP)--A number of measures aiming at strengthening the external position of the West African Monetary Union has been taken by the administrative council of the Central Bank of West African States [BCEAO], at the end of a meeting held in Ouagadougou, states a communique from the BCEAO released at its headquarters in Dakar on Thursday. This union includes Benin, the Ivory Coast, Upper Volta, Niger, Senegal and Togo.

After reviewing the general monetary situation of the union, which according to the communique, is characterized by an unfavorable development of its foreign reserves due to a difficult economic situation, and because of a number of external factors, the council, with the approval of competent authorities, has decided to adopt measures which will permit the repatriation of export revenues to the member states. It also decided to readjust the interest rates applied by the bank as well as banking conditions. The council also defined the means of recourse by the states of the union to the resources of the International Monetary Fund. The administrative council proposed, with the approval of the Council of Ministers, to put into circulation a new 25 franc coin, to support the program for the advancement of both urban and rural women. The governor of the BCEAO, Mr Abdoulay Fadiga, presided over the meeting.

SIERRA LEONE

AB240945 Freetown Domestic Service in English 0655 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Excerpts] Algeria has donated 50 new Mercedes Benz cars to Sierra Leone as the country's assistance to the government for hosting this year's 17th OAU summit. In addition, the Algerian Government has donated a substantial sum of money to help offset the huge expenses involved in the hosting of such an important summit. These revelations were made by President Siaka Stevens during an impressive ceremony at State House to welcome him home yesterday evening after a 4-day state visit to the republic of Algeria. The head of state also revealed that Algeria has promised not only to supply this country will 500 tons of oil for the summit, but also to provide some basic necessities for the conference such as foodstuffs. Dr Stevens, who was full of admiration for the tremendous triumph Algeria has made in the field of agriculture, said he and his members were accorded a rousing welcome by the president, government and people of Algeria, on his arrival on Sunday up till their departure yesterday by a special plane provided by the Algerian head of state. Dr Stevens said he had fruitful discussions with Algerian head of state, and he spoke of the need to keep alive such contacts as he has established in recent times so that there could be a continuous stream of follow-up processes.

Ending his 4-day visit in Algeria, President Stevens was given a gala ceremonial farewell at the Houari Boumedienne International Airport. Algeria's President Chadli Bendjedid called on President Stevens at the palace residence where they had brief fraternal discussions covering economic aid and technical assistance between Algeria and Sierra Leone.

In a joint communique which was released, several agreements of cooperation were initiated. The communique consolidated Algeria-Sierra Leone relations and developments of increased bilateral cooperation. It further concretized the appropriate framework within which the following agreements can be brought to fruition: cultural cooperation agreement, technical and scientific cooperation agreements. On political issues, common viewpoints were harmonized on matters affecting the OAU, the liberation struggle in southern Africa, the inhumaness of apartheid, the problem in Western Sahara, the situation in the Middle East, the pending economic summit of OAU in Lagos next week and reinforcement of inter-African solidarity. On specific issues culminating in the signing of agreements, the government of Algeria pledges its political and economic support to assist Sierra Leone in fields which include development of bilateral trade between both countries, economic investments in the field of heavy and light industries, vocational training and higher education, support for Sierra Leone in securing financial aid from African, Arab Islamic monetary institutions.

TANZANIA'S PRESIDENT NYERERE BEGINS STATE VISIT

AB250830 Freetown Domestic Service in English 0655 GMT 25 Apr 80

[Text] President Julius Nyerere of the United Republic of Tanzania, arrived in Freetown yesterday evening at the start of a 4-day state visit to this country. The Tanzanian head of state was met on arrival at Freetown international airport by President Siaka Stevens. Also at the airport to welcome the distinguished visitor were the Second Vice President C.A. Kamara-Taylor, Tanzania's high commissioner to Sierra Leone, Jafar Msolomi, the acting foreign affairs minister, Mr S.R. Abboh, cabinet ministers, diplomats, top civil servants, traditional dancers from Mahera and other neighboring villages, members of the APC [All People's Congress] youth king and brigade. A special welcoming ceremony will be held in honor of the visiting president at silver grounds this morning at 1000 hours.

EEC AID PROGRAM MISSION ARRIVES FOR TALKS

AB220811 Freetown Domestic Service in English 0655 GMT 22 Apr 80

[Excerpts] The acting president, Mr. S.I. Koroma, has commended the good intentions of the EEC to bring about immediate economic development in Sierra Leone. Welcoming a seven-man EEC programming mission which is in Sierra Leone to discuss financial and technical cooperation for the next 5 years and to send a new indicative aid program, Mr Koroma appealed to the mission to put more emphasis on the northwestern agricultural project, which was originally intended to cover the Gambia and Port Loko districts, but has not been approved. Mr Koroma said the speedy implementation of the project will go a great way to correct the imbalance between the south and east, on one side, and the northern province on the other. Mr Koroma expressed gratitude to the EEC for a package and allocation amounting to between 68 million and 78 million leones, which shows an increase of about 50 to 70 percent.

The leader of the mission, Mr L.H. Friedson, said the relationship between the EEC and Sierra Leone was cordial both in the program stage and its implementation. He said their mission was to find out the various needs of Sierra Leone for the next 5 years and wanted to express thanks to the government for the cordial relationship accorded the delegation since their arrival yesterday.

ANGOLA

SENEGALESE DEMOCRATIC PARTY LEADER DEPARTS

AB242000 Paris AFP in French 1558 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] Luanda, 24 Apr (AFP)--Mr Abdoulaye Wade, the secretary general of the Senegalese Democratic Party (PDS), left Luanda on Wednesday night for his country after a friendship visit of approximately 1 week to Angola at the invitation of the Central Committee of the MPLA Workers' Party. This was announced by the Angola press agency, ANGOP.

Mr Abdoulaye Wade declared himself optimistic about and encouraged by the strengthening of the relations between the two parties. My great satisfaction, he stated, is due especially to the fact that I noticed that progress has been achieved in the areas of the development of organization, and that the teachings of President Neto are followed to the letter by the MPLA Workers' Party and by his successor, Jose Eduardo Dos Santos.

The leader of the Senegalese Democratic Party stated in conclusion that he noticed that the preoccupations of the MPLA Workers' Party include the problem of the liberation of the African Continent in particular. Mr Abdoulaye Wade held discussions in Luanda with Angolan authorities from the party, the government, the youth organization and the National Union of Workers of Angola, UNTA. He was received in audience by the president of the MPLA Workers' Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, Jose Eduardo Dos Santos.

COMMISSION ON FORMER STATE SECURITY PRACTICES DISSOLVED

AB241155 Luanda Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] Yesterday, the Ministries of Interior and Justice issued a joint decree relative to the inquiry currently being pursued by a commission set up last year in order to put an end to the illegal practices of the officials of the former Directorate of State Security.

According to the decree, this commission of inquiry is to stop its work immediately, since it was unable because of certain complexities to complete its work and to submit its report in due time. The commission, therefore, will have to submit its current report to the authorities which had created it, and hand all documents to the cabinet of the deputy minister in charge of state security.

MAURITIUS

OPPOSITION CALLS FOR RESIGNATION OF PRIME MINISTER

AB241500 Paris AFP in French 0811 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] Port Louis, 24 Apr (AFP)--On Wednesday, the Parliamentary opposition initiated a motion of no confidence against Prime Minister Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam and Finance Minister Sir Veerasamy Ringadoo, following the release of a report drafted by the state finances auditor and which revealed the prime minister's interference, in violation of the law, in the affairs of the jewelry seized in 1976 by the Mauritian customs.

In a report which was handed to Parliament on Tuesday by the director of auditing of state accounts, the official responsible for the internal security of the state, Mr Rewcastle [as received], a British national, disclosed that Prime Minister Sir Seewoosagur Rangoolam gave him full authority to sell the jewels in London, this being against the law. The auditor also indicated that the jewels were sold at a price lower than the estimate made by Mauritian jewellers.

The report raised howls of protest among the Parliamentarians and the leader of the opposition, Mr Anerood Jkvnauth [as received] [word indistinct] of the Mauritian militant movement, drew up a motion of no confidence against the prime minister and the Finance Minister Sir Veerasamy Ringadoo on Wednesday morning.

As for the Mauritian Socialist Party which is formed by a group of dissidents of the ruling Labor Party, it demanded the resignation of the prime minister and the minister of finance.

NAMIBIA

SHAH REPORTEDLY NEGOTIATING TO SETTLE IN TRANSKEI

WA251440 Windhoek ADVERTISER in English 16 Apr 80 p 3

[Text] Negotiations are still underway concerning the Transkei's offer of asylum to the deposed shah of Iran, says Mr C J van Rensburg.

Mr van Rensburg, the east London businessman who on Sunday admitted to having played the part of a go-between for the Transkei and the shah, says that until the shah's decision is known, he will not talk to the press about his role.

"You must understand, it would be unwise on my part to reveal everything now. We're still very busy with negotiations and I've still a few trips to make." He declined to say whether the trips included a visit to the shah who is presently in Egypt.

"Until I get permission from Chief George Matanzima of the Transkei, I'm not prepared to say anything." He promised to talk to the press as soon as he was given the go ahead.

Chief Matanzima yesterday refused to comment on the matter. "It is a very delicate and very secret deal--I don't know how it got into the open." He refused to say whether he had any reply to his offer to the shah.

ZIMBABWE

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHED WITH ITALY

LD241553 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 23 Apr 80 CA

[Text] The governments of the republics of Zimbabwe and Italy have established diplomatic relations at an ambassadorial level. The statement says that in order to strengthen the ties of friendship between the two countries, and to promote relations of cooperation based on the principles of equality, mutual respect of national sovereignty and on noninterference in internal affairs, it has been decided to establish diplomatic relations.